

Bavarian News

Vol 3. Nr. 21

U.S. Army Garrisons Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, Ansbach, Bamberg, Schweinfurt, and Garmisch

October 31, 2007

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2SCR Soldiers help celebrate Sadr City school renovation

Story and photo by Sgt. MIKE PRYOR
2nd BCT, 82nd Airborne Division

When students at the Yarmook Girl's School in Sadr City returned from summer vacation last month, they found that their school had received an extreme make-over, thanks to the government of Iraq and the U.S. Army.

U.S. Soldiers and Iraqi National Police visited the recently renovated school to see the improvements and hand out backpacks and soccer balls to the students Oct. 22.

The renovations totaled \$200,000, including a new roof, a new lighting system, repairs to cracks in the pavement and stairs, and a paint-job, said Capt. Alex Carter, a U.S. Army civil affairs team chief who helped oversee the project.

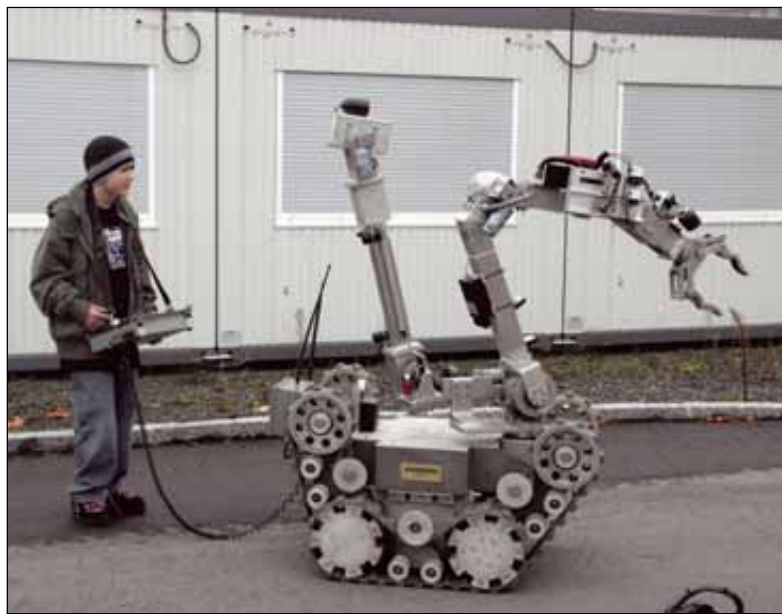
Nine other schools in Sadr City have also been renovated over the past few months, as part of the same program that refurbished the Yarmook Girl's School, Carter said. The school improvement program has been made possible by cooperation between the Ministry of Education, the local neighborhood councils, school officials, the Iraqi National Police, and the U.S. 1st Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, which operates in the Sadr City area, he

See **2SCR** Page 3



U.S. Soldiers and Iraqi National Police officers talk to students at the Yarmook Girl's School in Baghdad's Sadr City neighborhood.

Robotics demo an 'explosive' experience for local students



Derrick Lomonaco, an eighth-grader in Doris Henry's robotics class at Grafenwoehr Middle School, got familiar with the controls of a 700-pound RONS robot during a 702nd EOD team demonstration Oct. 17.

Story and photo by KATIE COWART
Assistant editor

On Oct. 17, the students of Doris Henry's robotics class at Grafenwoehr Middle School got a treat when members of the 702nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal came to show off their technology.

Henry teaches the one-semester robotics class as an elective, as well as eighth grade science. She said the class started around 2000, and the students build Lego Mindstorm robots over the course of the semester.

Her class is now in the final phase, the inventor's phase. This is where the students get to look at the original design of the robots and see if they can redesign them to make them better or perform a different function.

"The purpose of this class is to integrate technology that we really need in real life," Henry said. "This is the epitome of hands-on science. It's one thing to read about it or see it on TV, but to go in and change it is different."

See **ROBOTICS** Page 3

Ship smart to get your packages on time

by BILYANA ATOVA
Bavarian News

With the holiday season fast approaching, the Community Mail Room is encouraging community members to send for their Christmas packages early this year.

"It is never too early to start ordering, and it is really good to start now," said Martin Pietrzak, a mail technician at the Grafenwoehr CMR.

"I have been here for three years and I feel bad when people look for their stuff and it doesn't come on time," he said.

Pietrzak said he's been around long enough to have seen lots of disappointed faces when packages don't arrive.

"I know about orders made in December,

See **PAY** Page 6

Early detection key to surviving breast cancer

by SANDRA WILSON
Bavarian News

An estimated 178,480 women and 2,030 men are expected to be diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in the United States during 2007, according to statistics from the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation.

An estimated 40,460 women and 450 men will die from breast cancer this year.

"It doesn't have to be a death sentence," said Angela Hunter, health promotions coordinator in Schweinfurt. "That's why early detection is key."

October is breast cancer awareness month, and Schweinfurt hosted a five kilometer walk/run Oct. 20 to help stress the importance of early detection.

"Every year we have more and more women that are being diagnosed with breast cancer nationally.

Here in Schweinfurt one of our initiatives is to try to get more women that fall within the health risk range to comply with their annual mammograms," said Hunter.

Due to limited facilities and equipment at the Schweinfurt health clinic, registered nurse Ann Peterson, point of contact for mammograms, assists in making appointments for the screenings in town.

"A lot of people are scared about doing it on the economy," said Petersen. But the facilities and equipment, including ultrasound machines, are ideal for getting treatment immediately, if needed.

According to Petersen, the Army recommends starting mammogram tests at the age of 40 and repeating every two years after that unless otherwise directed by the doctor.

Petersen and Hunter also stressed the importance of doing monthly breast self-exams at home beginning

at age 20.

"Women are more reactive than proactive. It's a matter of always putting it off," said Petersen.

Going to the same doctor is also helpful in early detection. While that can be difficult when moving frequently to new duty stations, Petersen highly recommends obtaining copies of the exam films to take to the next location.

"There's a lot of hope as long as it's caught early," said Petersen. "Don't be afraid (of exams). Put yourself first. You have to take care of yourself before you can take care of your family."

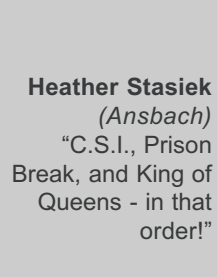
For questions regarding breast cancer or to schedule a mammogram appointment, call your local health clinic. At Schweinfurt, call the appointment line at DSN 354-7901 or CIV 09721-96-7901 and ask for Ann Petersen.

Q&A

What are *you*
watching on TV?



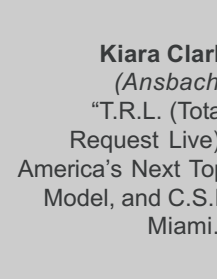
Staff Sgt. Steven McDonald
(Ansbach)
"Football, college football, and Simpsons or Family Guy - a tie for whatever is on at the time..."



Heather Stasiek
(Ansbach)
"C.S.I., Prison Break, and King of Queens - in that order!"



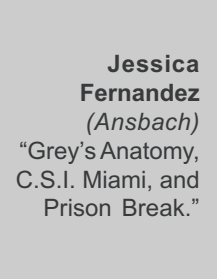
Leigh Jackson
(Ansbach)
"Survivor - I watch Sling Box, Heros, and The Starter Wife."



Kiara Clark
(Ansbach)
"T.R.L. (Total Request Live), America's Next Top Model, and C.S.I. Miami."



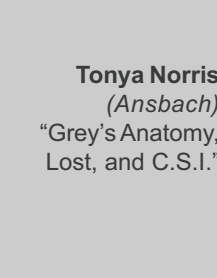
Linda Yarman
(Ansbach)
"Grey's Anatomy, House, and older ones no longer on - Seinfeld and Frasier..."



Jessica Fernandez
(Ansbach)
"Grey's Anatomy, C.S.I. Miami, and Prison Break."



Jodi Belcagr
(Ansbach)
"E.R.; Ghost Whisperer, when it is on; and Japanese Animation on DVD for my daughter."



Tonya Norris
(Ansbach)
"Grey's Anatomy, Lost, and C.S.I."

Visit Vilseck clinic tomorrow to learn how to use resources

Not sure anyone wants to be ranked #2 in the Football BCS poll as another one bites the dust.

And the rest of the undefeated teams all have tough games either this week or in coming weeks.

It's likely everyone will have at least one defeat when the bowl games come out so who will be the mythical national champion? Off to the column.



Vilseck Health Clinic Harvest

Lt. Col. Alarcon and the rest of the Vilseck Health Clinic cordially invite the community to come visit his clinic tomorrow from 9:30 a.m.-noon. The purpose of the open house is to explain to all what sort of services are offered in the clinic.

Dr A. has an enhanced staff and services and wants all personnel to see what he can offer to Soldiers and their Family members. Mental health, EDIS, Physical Therapy, Optometry, X-ray Department, TRICARE and a whole lot more will all be explained by knowledgeable employees of his clinic.

They'll even show you the new phone system and how it will work. So in short - get out and see your clinic, have some refreshments, and find out how you can get medical support from the Vilseck clinic.

Outdoor Recreation

About a month ago, I had a birthday party for my youngest son. We went to Outdoor Rec and rented a 20 ft. x 20 ft. tent, fest tables, and chairs. What was amazing to me was how cheap the rates were. With the winter season coming, check out Outdoor Rec to reserve

your winter sporting needs.

See page 8 in this paper that show rental rates for the winter and summer. They have scuba equipment, tents, boating gear, outdoor sports and it costs less than \$200.00 to rent skis and equipment for the entire ski season. They even fix bicycles.

Outdoor Rec is here to serve your outdoor sports needs and I encourage everyone to go there and see what they have to offer.

CFC

Most of you have seen the numerous advertisements in various media about the Combined Federal Campaign. This campaign, along with Army Emergency Relief, are the only two campaigns the Army sponsors.

In 2006, the overseas component of CFC raised more than 15 million dollars and over \$500,000 was raised for overseas military Family Support and Youth programs. This year's theme, "Make a world of Difference," has as a goal to raise even more funds than previous years.

With over 2,000 eligible organization, I encourage all of you to contact your unit key person and consider giving to needy organizations. Reach deep and see how you can make a difference this year.

Cold medicine recall

Stars and Stripes and other media recently reported that drug makers are voluntarily recalling children's cold medicine from the shelves. The concern was based on a recent government warning that parents could inadvertently overdose their children on drug medicine, particularly children at less than two years of age.

The following recommendations should help govern the use of childrens cold medicine.

■ Do not use cough and cold products in children under 2 years of age unless given

specific directions to do so by a healthcare provider.

■ Do not give children medicine that is packaged and made for adults. Use only products marked for use in babies, infants or children (sometimes called "pediatric" use).

■ If other medicines are being given to a child, the child's healthcare provider should review and approve their combined use.

■ Follow the directions in the "Drug Facts" box. Do not give a child medicine more often or in greater amounts than is stated on the package.

■ Too much medicine may lead to serious and life-threatening side effects, particularly in children aged 2 years and younger.

■ If you do not understand the instructions on the product, or how to use the dosing device, do not use the medicine. Consult your healthcare provider if you have questions or are confused.

■ Cough and cold medicines only treat the symptoms of the common cold such as runny nose, congestion, fever, aches, and irritability. They do not cure the common cold. Children get better with time.

■ If a child's condition worsens or does not improve, stop using the product and immediately take the child to a health care provider for evaluation.

I applaud the drug making community decision to recall drugs in the interest of taking care of our youth. With the cold season rapidly approaching, I caution parents to read instructions carefully and when in doubt check with you health care provider. Let's continue to take care of our youth and keep this community the best place to live and serve in Europe.

*Col. Brian T. Boyle
Commander, U.S. Army
Garrison Grafenwoehr*

Americans thank military for service, won't treat troops like Vietnam vets



TANYA BIANK

My husband always feels uncomfortable when people thank him for his military service. He used to reply with something along the lines of: "You don't need to thank me. I'm just doing my job."

I told him a better answer would be a simple thank you.

"When people thank you for your service, they are expressing appreciation for all our service members," I said. "Be gracious, and accept their gratitude."

I meet and hear from people across the country. With the exception of the man who told me my husband was an Iraqi baby killer, Americans I've met — liberals, conservatives and everyone in between — recognize our troops' service and sacrifice. Having an American public distinguish war politics from war service is significant, considering our nation is drastically divided over Iraq.

The imprint of Vietnam still mars our national conscience, and few have forgotten how young Americans took their frustrations with the war out on our troops. People who

remember those dismal times tell me our troops won't be treated that way again.

These days, travelers migrate to those in uniform at airports to shake their hands. Hometown classrooms and churches send sundry items and homemade cards to Iraq. And companies large and small give donations and discounts to troops and their families.

An Army wife friend told me of how a diner at another table picked up the tab for the 14 uniformed service members attending her husband's farewell luncheon.

"That wasn't cheap," she said. "I was greatly impressed by this man's act of kindness."

An old friend, who is a military police officer in the Reserves, still smiles when she thinks of the customer who paid for her cup of coffee at a gas station. The men left before she could say thank you.

"A complete stranger whom I will never know, loves our troops, and I was on the

receiving end of his kindness," she said. "Made my day."

Another friend, whose husband is in Iraq, told me she ordered a case of her husband's favorite brand of mustard from a store in his hometown.

"They returned my money and sent me a case with a thank you letter for everything my Ronnie is doing," she said. "I know it was just mustard, but it made me cry that they would do that for him. It really was a nice gesture."

A few weeks ago while on a trip to California, I overheard a woman thank my husband for his service.

"Thank you," he said with a smile.

Tanya is a journalist and syndicated columnist with CinChouse.com. Tanya's book "Army Wives" is the basis for the Lifetime TV drama "Army Wives." As a journalist she has traveled around the world with troops. Tanya is an Army brat and Army wife.



Cartoon by Taylor Nattress: 5th Grade, Grafenwoehr Elementary

Bavarian News

Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, Ansbach, Bamberg, Schweinfurt, and Garmisch

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Know emergency numbers, be aware of surroundings when on the road

by BILYANA ATOVA

Bavarian News

The best time to prepare for an emergency is before it happens.

In Germany, the two important numbers to remember are 1-1-0 for the police and 1-1-2 for the fire brigade.

They are both free of charge and "it does not matter which one you use, but 1-1-0 is the better one when it comes to car accidents," said Werner Stopfer, the Weiden police commissioner.

He explained that problems frequently arise when Americans call to report automobile accidents.

"It happens often that people who call are not able to give directions (to the scene), especially people who just (arrived in country)," said Stopfer.

For those Americans who are concerned about the language barrier, Stopfer explained that emergency operators understand basic English and can call the military police for further assistance.

If you are involved in or witness an automobile accident, call 1-1-0 and provide the following information:

- Your full name
- Whether you were involved in the accident or whether you were a

witness

- Explain what happened and if people are injured

- List the casualties and their condition

- The location of the accident. (If it happened on a secondary road, and you do not know where it is located, read nearby road signs for the operator or estimate your location based on where you left from and where you are heading.)

"It is really useful to say where you are coming from and where you are going to," stressed Stopfer. "For example, between Grafenwoehr and Eschenbach, there is just one road."

If motorists are aware of this simple fact, that will help emergency operators dispatch help as quickly as possible. Stopfer said all motorists, locals and foreigners, should be aware of the surroundings; where they are located in relation to where they work and live.

He also urged residents who call in accidents to stay on the phone until the operator has received all the information they need.

If you are involved in or witness an accident on the Autobahn, Stopfer said letting an emergency operator know what signs you see, numbers and names of exits, and the nearest

kilometer marker (a white sign located every half-kilometer) can mean the difference between life and death for an injured victim.

And while serious accidents require emergency response, Stopfer said some minor vehicle accidents can be handled on the spot between the drivers.

"One does not have to call the police at every accident," he said.

If, for

example, a motorist scratches another vehicle in a parking lot and there are only two people involved, Stopfer said they can exchange personal information without calling the police.

It is, however, illegal to drive away without reporting an accident regardless of its size. Stopfer recalled a case recently in Pressath in which a

young Soldier knocked out a little sign in the traffic circle and drove away without reporting it to the 1-1-0 number or the MPs.

Leaving the scene of an automobile accident or witnessing an accident and driving away without stopping to give aid or report it is against the law.

Stopfer said motorists should keep emergency numbers listed at home, on their cell phones, and in their wallets.

Another option for emergency response is calling the MPs, said Stopfer, especially for families who live on post.

In addition to serving as Germany's fire brigade emergency number, 1-1-2 serves as an international emergency number for all countries that are a part of the

European Union. It is the most important number for everyone planning to travel around Europe and it is free of charge from any telephone or mobile phone.

“It happens often that people who call are not able to give directions (to the accident scene), especially people who just (arrived in country).”

Werner Stopfer

Weiden Police Commissioner

Spotlight on Education



Name: Cathy Lagasse

What grade /subject and where do you teach? 4th grade

Hometown: Rolla, N.D.

How long have you been a teacher? 31 years - 28 for DoDDS

What do you like best about teaching?

The variety. It is never boring. You see changes so much in the students. I can't think of another job I'd rather do.

What advice can you give students to help them succeed in school? Read every day. Read as much as you can. Take advantage of the opportunities as they come.

Smells like teen spirit in Wuerzburg

Juniors host annual pageant during homecoming weekend

Danny Osgood has his eye lashes feathered backstage by sophomore Jessie Brown.



Story and photo by ROGER TEEL

Bavarian News

In high school life, the tradition of homecoming is perhaps the most cherished and spirited of all.

At Wuerzburg American High School, homecoming weekend was no different, save that it was most likely the last for the school. But that is no reason to stifle school spirit.

The junior class-sponsored Spaghetti Dinner and Ms. Wuerzburg Pageant kicked off homecoming Oct. 18.

An annual fund-raiser, the pageant features school athletes taking a turn on the catwalk, in drag.

The event has been a staple for many years, "as long as anyone can remember" claimed the event program text.

Decked out in borrowed evening wear, 10 athletes performed short skits to showcase their talent (or lack of it). Some lip-synched songs, but most danced, or attempted to. Edwin

Cadelinia, perhaps the most talented dancer, had the all-woman panel of judges blushing at his antics.

Contestants were then interviewed by onstage announcers Kaylah Cousin and Courtney Edwards, and also by 2006 Ms. Wuerzburg runner-up, Ms. Erica Flom. Feigning feminism, contestants were, uh, catty during their interviews, and the audience of 300 students, parents and supporters howled at their responses.

Judges Nancy Clayton, Elizabeth Walker, and Joanne Edwards narrowed their lists before naming Ms. Wuerzburg and two runners up.

"Since there won't be a school here next year, this year's Ms. Wuerzburg will wear the crown FOREVER!" announcer Edwards explained before the coronation.

With that, senior AJ Miles was crowned Ms. Wuerzburg 2007. Also in the running were: Cadelinia, Sebastian Casteneda, Lewis M'bote, Bryant Milliard, Daniel Osgood, Bryant Pingo, Patrick Smith, Daniel Soto-Perez, and Ben Snyder.

2SCR

Continued From Page 1

said.

"What makes this special to me is that this really validates how effective we are working with the Iraqi Police in Sadr City," Carter said.

The top Iraqi Police official present at the school visit, Brig. Gen. Ali Ibrahim Daboun, commander of the 8th Brigade, 2nd Iraqi National Police Division, said he was also pleased by cooperation between the Iraqi government, the Iraqi Security Forces, and the U.S. military.

He said he hoped that the school improvement program would show the 2.5 million residents of Sadr City that they are a priority of the Iraqi Government.

"In the past, they were neglected, but the new government will serve them," he said.

Robotics students get first-hand experience with EOD machinery

Continued From Page 1

Henry invited the 702nd EOD to come do a demonstration for her class to show them robots with different functions.

The EOD team brought three robots, each of a different age with drastically different capabilities. The oldest, from 1991, was a 700-pound Remote Ordnance Neutralization System. The other two were much smaller, weighing approximately 100 pounds each.

The PacBot and the Talon are also much newer models with more sophisticated technology, emerging in 2000 and 2002 respectively.

After a short explanation of some of the history and what the robots are used for, Sgt. Kristin Butcher handed the controls over to the kids.

"We're here for them (the students) to see the other robots out there and encourage them to keep studying," Butcher said. "I'm happy these guys are having fun, are entertained, and are learning."

Each of the students had a chance to try to operate the robots. Eighth-grader Remington Edwards tried out the big RONS robot.

"It can be hard to control if you don't know how to do it, but it's really fun," Edwards said.

Edwards said he was thinking about possibly joining the EOD team. He said his brother was the one that got him interested in robotics to begin with.

"My brother had a robotics kit, and he showed me all these gears," he said.

Amber Holland, in seventh grade, also tried out a few of the robots.

"I think it's cool how you're in one room and the robot and camera is way over there, and you can still see," Holland said.

Holland, who said she may join the military later to help pay for college and gain experience, said she still wants to work with robots.

"I think programming it is cool because we can go on the computer to change it. With the project we are working on in class, the objective is to knock over these cans," she said.

Butcher said that the Talon robot has a very practical use for her.

"So many times in Iraq this Talon robot saved me or my team from getting killed," she said. "This (demonstration) is a great opportunity to learn about the military and the future of robots."



Photo by Katie Cowart

After mastering the controls himself, GMS eighth-grader Derrick Lomonaco helps seventh-grader Thomas Leming learn the ropes of the 700-pound RONS robot.

Would you like to submit stories and photos to the Bavarian News? Find out how to become a stringer today. Call DSN 475-7113 or e-mail adriane.foss@eur.army.mil for infomation.

U.S. European Command Customs

Photo by Paula Guzman

The extended AAFES hours will allow customers more time to shop throughout the holiday season.

For more information or to register for this event, contact Roseanna Cintron or Dee Dee Koch, AWAG Oberpfalz area representatives at oberpfalz@awag.us or oberpfalz1@awag.us or log on to the AWAG Web site at: www.awag.us and click on the Oberpfalz link.

Call a military customs office in Grafenwoehr/Vilseck at DSN 476-2105 CIV 09662-83-2105, Hohenfels DSN 466-2012 CIV 09472-83-2012, Bamberg DSN 469- 7460 CIV 0951-300-7460 to find out more, or visit our Web site at www.hqusaureur.army.mil/opm/uscustoms.htm.

Place your free classified ad in the Bavarian News today!
Call DSN 475-7113 or visit www.milcom.de.


X-Pats Live at The Zone

Classic and
contemporary rock,
original compositions.

Starts 9 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 1


At Rose Barracks'
THE ZONE Sports Bar
(in Langenbruck Center)

**The X-Pats are U.S.
Soldiers and civilians.**



L-R: Nick D'Amario, Al Colangelo, Kris Sharon,
Adam Schlang, and Mat Cervantes.

Don't forget to tell them you read it in the Bavarian News.
Pick up the next edition Oct. 31.



Look for AFN online at www.afneurope.net/bavaria, or on the radio!

AFN Bavaria Radio Frequencies			Grafenwoehr		
Town	AM	FM			
Amberg	1107	90.0	Hohenfels	1485	89.4
Chiemsee		90.3	Nuremberg		107.4
Garmisch	1485	90.3	Katterbach		107.4
			Vilseck	1107	107.6

Community mourns Soldier who saw ‘the reward of fighting for freedom’

USAG Grafenwoehr Public Affairs

The Vilseck community gathered for a memorial ceremony Thursday to honor a 2^d Stryker Cavalry Regiment Soldier who gave his life in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Spc. Wayne M. Geiger, 23, of Lone Pine, Calif., died Oct. 18 from wounds sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle in Baghdad, Iraq. Geiger was assigned to the 3rd Squadron, 2SCR in Vilseck, Germany.

“Those of us who knew Wayne had uniform respect and admiration for his sense of humor, athletic prowess, and dedication to his duties as a Soldier,” said Maj. Tom Rickard, 2SCR rear detachment commander during the memorial ceremony at the Vilseck Post Chapel.

“He was born to serve. His father, Randy, is a lieutenant in the Inyo County, Calif., Sheriff’s Department. His mother, Kim, is a sheriff’s department civil officer. He was raised right by a family with tremendous faith and pride in our nation,” said Rickard.

Geiger joined the Army on Oct. 13, 2005, as



Geiger

an infantryman and attended One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Ga.

He arrived at Fort Lewis, Wash., Feb. 10, 2006, and was assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment. On July 24, 2006, he completed the re-stationing move to Vilseck, Germany, and was assigned to Company H, 3rd Squadron, 2SCR.

“Faith and pride in our mission and each other enable our Soldiers to stare down danger each day on patrol and not blink,” said Rickard. “Faith and pride in our mission and each other enable us in this community to grieve Cpl. Geiger’s death, knowing that his life had incredible purpose. He defended freedom for those who could not.

“Our regiment has punctured the heart of the Al-Qaida stronghold in the East Rashid, Hadar, and Doura districts,” he continued. “In fewer than eight weeks, Cpl. Geiger and his Dragoon teammates found over 100 improvised explosive devices in the Hadar district and over 20 weapons caches, including bomb-making

factories for explosive-formed projectiles.

“The Dragoons are methodically clearing each mulhalla, or small neighborhood, house-by-connected house, and have captured over 40 terrorists,” said Rickard.

“(Geiger saw) Iraqis going to work, going to school, going to mosques, paying bills, buying groceries, trying to live their lives.”

Maj. Tom Rickard
2SCR Rear Detachment Commander

and the progress of a fledgling democracy,” said Rickard. “He did his duty, superbly, and we are eternally grateful.

“Let those here today never forget Cpl. Wayne Geiger or the warriors of our regiment who gave their lives doing their duty for the right reason of providing freedom,” said Rickard. “May God bless their families, this regiment, and the United States of America.”

Geiger is survived by his parents, Randall and Kimberly, and his sister Jessica.

Find out where to get inclement weather info before it’s needed

Special to the Bavarian News

Community members can tune into AFN’s live shows on AM for weather warnings, road conditions, delays, and closures.

“The information we air concerning roads and schools comes straight from the (emergency operations center) and, as per (U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr Commander) Col. Brian Boyle’s guidance, it is announced every five to seven minutes,” said AFN Bavaria’s Broadcast Operations Director Tony McKinney in an e-mail to the Bavarian News.

“During the winter months, our morning show runs from 5-10 a.m. and the afternoon show from 2-6 p.m.,” he said.

Outside of the live shows, he said AFN will continue to run weather related information through their automated system. That is, recorded messages will run throughout the day on both AM and FM.

Community members can also visit their Web site for up-to-date information. Visit www.afneurope.net/bavaria and click on “Road Conditions and School Closures,” which will take you to the USAREUR G-3 site.

“Our experience is that this site is always up-to-date,” he said.

AFN Bavaria’s current frequencies (also listed on the Web site) are as follows:

Town	AM	FM
Amberg	1107	90.0
Chiemsee		90.3
Garmisch	1485	90.3
Grafenwoehr	1107	101.4
Hohenfels	1485	89.4
Vilseck	1107	107.6
Nuremberg, Katterbach		107.4

Pay attention to shipping details to get holiday packages on time

Continued From Page 1

and people (don’t get their packages until) January. If you order it now, you won’t have this problem.”

He said this is timely advice for an increasingly large community of online shoppers, and especially those who are looking forward to the post-Thanksgiving Christmas sales. He said one of the most important things to remember when Web shopping is to specify your method of shipment. He advised shoppers to choose priority or express mail as their timeliest options. Don’t assume your orders will be shipped priority, he said.

“It takes an average of two weeks for priority mail to come,” Pietrzak said “but one has to be careful, most companies are going to send it the cheapest way unless you specify.”

For those who prefer to use space available shipment, Pietrzak said “with the season coming up it can take up to 45 days (for a package to come),” Pietrzak said.

The reason? Pietrzak said mail flow increases astronomically during the holidays, and “with so much more priority mail, there will not be room enough for space available.

Add to that Grafenwoehr’s continually swelling population, which is expected to double within the next few years, and the mail dilemma is clear.

“And be careful with free shipping,” said Pietrzak. Again, don’t assume that just because it is free, it will be shipped priority. Also, he said shoppers should check to make sure the items they order are in stock. The wait for items that are on back-order can double a customer’s wait time.

Pietrzak suggested online shoppers track their orders so that if they do not arrive, the customer can contact the company in enough time to have it reshipped.

The same rules apply for packages received from friends and families. The sooner they are shipped, the better.



Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Headquarters and Headquarter Company, Blacksheep Operations Group celebrates winning the top team honors at the 2007 U.S. Forces-Europe Combat Cross Country Oct. 13 held at Hohenfels.

Photos by Michelle Bragg

Hohenfels units dominate 2007 U.S. Forces Europe Combat Cross Country Championship

by BILL CRAVEN
USAG Hohenfels Sports Programmer

U.S. Army Garrison Hohenfels and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Sports hosted the 2007 U.S. Forces-Europe Combat Cross Country Oct. 13 at Hohenfels, playing host to 37 participants.

The event took place on a 5K course that ran through many of the same trails that are used for the annual Mountain Bike Run.

And although the weather was ideal for this event, it was no ordinary 5K “Fun Run” on a dirt road through the woods.

The course was extremely challenging with rugged terrain throughout the entire race. The race was anticipated to be more difficult than these athletes made it look, with the leaders crossing the finish line more than 10 minutes quicker than expected.

The first place finisher was 36-year-old Master Sgt. Matthew Vanausdoll from the Joint Military Readiness Center, Headquarters and Headquarter Company, Blacksheep Operations Group from Hohenfels, who completed the course with a time of 23:27, almost two minutes ahead of the field.

Bamberg’s Sgt. Yuri Armstrong, from Headquarters & Headquarters Detachment 38th Personnel Service Battalion finished second with a time of 25:17 followed by 2nd Lt. Jared Tomberlin from B Co. 1/4 Infantry, Hohenfels with a time of 25:21.

Sgt. Trisha Baize also from Hohenfels, HHC JMRC OPS Group Blacksheep, won the women’s event in a time of 31:18.

Although many of the runners finished with times that may not have reflected the difficulty of the course, competitors said the course was, in fact, very challenging.

Vanausdoll noted that he and several members from his unit run parts of this course daily, including the very steep 150-yard uphill climb that starts around the 3K mark on the course, which may have contributed to the fast times.

It is difficult to imagine, but the hills, as challenging as they are, are what he enjoyed most about the course.

Home field advantage? Perhaps, but one thing is clear; these athletes demonstrated outstanding conditioning, drive, and fortitude and truly represented the Army’s finest athletes throughout the event.

The top 3 Team Awards for the event were:

1ST Place - HHC 1/4 Infantry with 38 total points, USAG Hohenfels

2ND Place - HHC JMRC OPS Group Blacksheep with 55 total points, USAG Hohenfels

3RD Place - B Co. 1/4 Infantry, with 78 total points, USAG Hohenfels



Master Sgt. Matthew Vanausdoll from the Joint Multinational Readiness Center, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Blacksheep Operations Group won individual honors at the 2007 U.S. Forces-Europe Combat Cross Country Oct. 13 held at Hohenfels.

Outdoor Recreation



ODR SUMMER PRICE LIST

*** Prices are listed in U.S. dollars***

Camping Equipment			
	Day	W-end	Week
Backpack (S)	2	3	6
Backpack (L)	3	5	15
Camping Kit (3p)*	25	40	80
Camping Kit (5p) **	30	50	90
Cook Stove (2 burner)	5	8	10
Cook Set	3	4	8
Cot	2	4	8
Ice Chest	4	6	12
Lantern	3	5	10
Propane Space Heater (G)	5	8	10
Sleeping Bag	3	5	10
Sleeping Pad	1	2	4
Tent (2-4 Man)	8	14	29
Tent (4-6 Man)	11	18	36
Tent (6-8 Man) (V)	10	17	34
Tent (7-9 Man) (G)	12	19	38
Water Jug (S)	2	4	8
Table, Picnic folding (V)	6	9	18
Water Jug (L)	3	5	9
Fest Table w/ Benches	3	5	12
Party Set (5 sets fest tables)	10	20	40

* 3 Person camping set includes: 5 man tent, 3 sleeping bags, 3 sleeping pads, stove, lantern and cook set.

** 5 Person camping set includes: 5 man tent, sleeping pads, stove, lantern and cook set.

Canopies w/ Sidewalls

	Day	W-end	Week
15' x 15' (G)	15	30	60
20' x 20'	25	50	100
20x20' Frame (V)	45	70	120
20x20'Frame (G)	45	70	120
20' x 30'	30	60	120
20' x 40'	35	65	125
40' x 40' (G)		100	150
40' x 60' (G)		125	175



BBQ Grills

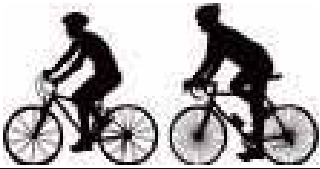
	Day	W-end	Week
Medium Grill	15	20	60
Large Grill (w/wheels)(G)	20	35	75
Trailer Grill (V)	20	40	80

Bicycle Equipment

	Day	W-end	Week
Touring Bike	10	14	20
Mountain Bike	10	14	20
* Helmet	1	2	4

* Helmet is included in Equipment Issue Pricing
ODR SUMMER PRICE LIST

*** Prices are listed in U.S. dollars***



Party Equipment

	Day	W-end	Week
Balls (diff. sports)	1	2	5
Badminton (V)	3	5	10
Dunking Booth (V)	50	70	125
Jumping Castle (G)	50	80	125
Horseshoe set	3	5	10
Volleyball set (net, ball)	7	10	20
Softball set	5	8	21
(Bat, glove, and ball)			
Softball glove or bat	1	2	5
Tug-O-War rope (V)	2	3	8
Portable Climbing Wall-Call Graf ODR for info.			

Water Sport Equipment

	Day	W-end	Week
Canoe*	15	25	50
Life Jacket	3	5	12
John boat*	10	20	30
White Water Kayak*	20	30	55
Sea Kayak*	20	30	55
Wet Suit	3	5	10
Raft (6-8 Man) (G)	25	50	100

* Life vest, helmet, paddles, paddle jacket, dry bag and wet suit are included.

Scuba Equipment

	Day	W-end	Week
01 Mask	1	2	4
02 Snorkel	50	1	2
03 Fins with booties	2	3	6
04 Booties	1	2	4
05 Gloves	1	2	4
06 Diver's Knife	1	2	3
07 Wet Suit	5	9	15
08 U/W Light	2	3	6
09 BCD	4	7	12
10 Regulator, oct & gauge	8	15	25
Panel w/ comp.			
11 Tank 101 or 151	5	7	10
12 Weights & Belts	1	2	4
13 Dry Suit & underwear	9	16	25
14 U/W Scooter	6	10	15
15 Scooter Battery	2	2	2
16 U/W Camera	6	10	15
17 Dive Computer	5	8	14

ITEMS 9-18 CAN ONLY BE RENTED TO CERTIFIED SCUBA DIVERS ONLY.

Special Offer

Basic Scuba Set	20*	30*	40
Dry Suit Set	25*	35*	50

* 2 Tanks are included

*** Prices are listed in U.S. Dollars***

Facilities

	Day	Week
CABIN		
2 Bedroom (V)	75	360
3 Bedroom (V)	85	420
PAVILIONS	SM	LG
B. Mike, L. Mike, Logsdon	20	30
Dickhauter	30	60

Party Room (V)	60
Campground, RV (water/elect)	10
Campground (per tent)	7



For cabins and party room rental a \$50 security / key deposit is required in addition to rental fee.
Deposit will be returned if no discrepancies are found.

ODR WINTER PRICE LIST

*** Prices are listed in U.S. Dollars***

Alpine Skiing			
	Day	W-end	Week
Ski Set (Skis & Boots)	15	30	50
Ski Set w/ Pants	20	40	60
Skis	10	15	30
Boots	7	11	15
Poles	3	6	8
Helmet	*** F	R	E E ***
Jacket	8	10	15
Pants	6	8	12
Suits	10	15	20

Children under 12 years receive ½ off Ski equipment price.

Snowboarding			
	Day	W-end	Week
Board & Boots	20	30	50
Board, Boots & Suit	25	40	60
Boards	15	30	50
Boots	7	11	15

Children under 12 receive ½ off Snowboard equipment price.

Cross Country			
	Day	W-end	Week
Nordic Ski Set	10	15	30
Nordic Skis	6	12	20
Nordic Ski Boots	5	8	12
Nordic Ski Poles	3	6	8

Other Equipment

	Day	W-end	Week
Ski/Boarding Pants	6	8	12
Ice Skates, Figure	3	6	8
Ice Skates, Hockey	4	6	10
Sled	4	6	10

Children under 12 years receive ½ off Winter equipment price.
Seasonal (Includes Maintenance)

Oct 07-April 08 (Free monthly maintenance mandatory)

	Adult	Kids under 12
Alpine Ski Set	199	99
Nordic Ski Set	75	40
Snowboard Set	239	

Family Rental Rates. First two family members pay full price. Additional family members pay half price each. Special is valid for rentals and Arber trips only. No accumulation of discounts.

Maintenance		Ski	Snowboard
Edging & Waxing		12	13
Base Repair		8-15	12-20
Wax		7	10
Edge		7	9
Binding Mounting		15	15
Binding Removal		5	5
Plugging		4	4
Express Service (Same Day)		\$5 Extra	

Seasonal Items

	Day
Santa Suit	10




Eagle Accomplishment

The Boy Scouts of America conducted an Eagle Scout Court of Honor at Grafenwoehr, Germany, on Saturday to advance two boys of Troop 261 to the highest rank in Scouting. Johnny L. Bonar Jr, 16, son of John and Pam Bonar, and Calvin J. Van Patten, 15, son of James and Carmen Van Patten recited the Pledge of the Eagle Scout, administered by the Edelweiss District Chairman Jean Boyle. Both boys, who advanced through the Scouting program at Grafenwoehr, completed all requirements which culminated with an Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project and an arduous board of review. Bonar's project was a nativity scene stable for the post chapel and Van Patten's project was the local prisoner of war cemetery. The event was well attended and included special presentations from Brig. Gen. David Hogg, commanding general of the 7th Army Joint Multi-national Training Command, the local Veteran of Foreign Wars, the Edelweiss District Executive Karen Meier, and recognition from President and Mrs. Bush, Maj. Gen. Mark Hertling, commanding general of the 1st Armored Division, and Boys Scouts of America Leadership.



MELODRAMA

Dinner Theatre



Or Nurses! Foiled Again!

Dogshreath Devereaux

The Dastardly Doctor

Presented by the
Vilseck High School Players
on the VHS Multipurpose Room

Thursday, November 15
Saturday, November 17

Admission:
\$10 Adults
\$7 Children (under 18)
\$25 Family (up to 4 people)

Dinner at 6
Show at 7

Price includes:
Spaghetti Dinner with Salad, Drink, Dessert
and the Show

Presented by the VHS Drama and Theatre Departments

Flu vaccine available at Bavaria clinics

by ANNE TORPHY
Special to the Bavarian News

The influenza vaccine has arrived in Europe and is being distributed to Army medical clinics throughout Europe, according to Col. Theresa Moser, chief of the Force Health Protection Office, Europe Regional Medical Command. She has oversight of this year’s immunization program. The Bavarian Medical Command has scheduled dates of immunization for all eight clinics in the region.

The Europe Regional Medical Command has finalized plans to immunize personnel in an effort to minimize the effects of influenza during the coming winter months. Clinic commanders have been charged with focusing their early efforts on protecting the active-duty force by scheduling mass immunizations for units in their areas. Family

members and other authorized beneficiaries will be offered influenza vaccine afterwards.

Currently, the USAMEDDAC Bavaria consists of the health clinic in Wuerzburg on Leighton Barracks; and seven outlying health clinics supporting 40,000 Soldiers and Family members in Bavaria, Germany. The clinics are located in Bamberg, Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, Illesheim, K a t t e r b a c h , Schweinfurt, Vilseck, and Wuerzburg.

The flu vaccine schedule for the Family members and other authorized beneficiaries at the clinics is as follows:

Bamberg: Walk-in appointments beginning Monday – Nov. 16. Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-

noon and 1-4:30 p.m. Closed weekends and holidays. Questions call CIV 0951-300-1750/7772.

Grafenwoehr: Walk-in appointments beginning tomorrow. Monday–Wednesday 9

a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m.; Thursday 1-5 p.m.; Friday 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Questions call CIV 09641-83-7426, or DSN 475-4726.

Hohenfels: To be announced at a later date.

Illesheim: Walk-in appointments. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-3:30 p.m.; Wednesday 9-11:30 a.m. Questions call CIV 09841-83-5112 or DSN 467-5112.

Katterbach: Walk-in appointments beginning tomorrow. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday 7:30-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m.; Thursday 1-4 p.m. Questions call CIV 09802-83-3284 or DSN 467-3284.

Schweinfurt: Walk-in appointments already available. Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 2-5:30 p.m. in the basement of the Health Clinic – bring shot records. Questions call CIV 09721-96-6378 or DSN 354-6378.

Vilseck: Walk-in appointments beginning Friday. Monday-Wednesday 7 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Thursday 1-7:30 p.m.; Friday 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Questions call CIV 09662-83-2014 or DSN 476-2014.

Wuerzburg: Friday, 4-6 p.m. Extended hours for DoDDS, CYS, CDC, Commissary, PX employees; Saturday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Family members.

Another date may be added based on need.

This year’s goal is to immunize 95 percent of the Active Duty population by Dec. 31.

Members of the active force can expect to receive additional information from their units.

Instead of the familiar injection, many in Europe will receive a nasal mist.

Known commercially as FluMist®, this vaccine is recommended for most people aged 2-49. For those who should not receive the nasal mist, other forms of vaccination may be offered.

The type of vaccine an individual receives will depend on age and contributing health factors, such as pregnancy or pre-existing allergies, says Col. William Corr, ERMCC’s preventive medicine consultant.

Parents are strongly urged to seek the immunization for their children. Infants are more likely to develop severe health problems should they contract the flu, and young children are usually the carriers of influenza into families. Getting the flu vaccine helps protect the entire household.

In addition, take precautions, such as washing hands frequently, covering up coughs and sneezes, and keeping up a healthy diet.

The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta publishes guidelines for influenza vaccinations, and the Army will follow those guidelines in its annual campaign.

For more information on influenza and the benefits of receiving the vaccination, visit www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/.



Courtesy photo

While in the past most people have received a flu shot, now most are eligible for a nasal mist. The shot will remain available for those who need it.

Physical therapy sees 300 percent increase in patient load

Story and photo by
MARK HEETER
Bavarian News

By most business standards, a 300 percent increase in customer base might be a good thing.

In the world of physical therapy within the U.S. Army Europe, though, that is the historical increase in patient load following a deployment, according to Capt. Cyndi McLean, physical therapy consultant for the Bavaria Medical Command.

“If you have pain in your joints, bones, muscles, that sort of thing, nerve problems, we are the go-to people,” McLean said, explaining that PT is the specialty of muscular-skeletal ailments.

“We’re very effective pre-operatively and post-operatively,” she said, emphasizing the latter as a focal point for this year’s National Physical Therapy Month of October.

McLean urges patients who have recently undergone an operation that

might lead to PT to contact their clinic and ensure they get started on a treatment program, and she insists the providers will be flexible if necessary.

“If we know of a situation, especially if they’re post-operative, and they can’t get into PT, you need to leave a note. You need to tell us. We don’t know you exist until you come to see us. We generally try to make an arrangement,” even it means during lunch or a late appointment, McLean said. “Whatever needs to be done.”

Additionally, Army physical therapists are preventative specialists and can offer classes to groups or get up informational displays or booths at community events, she said.

“We have typical classes on knee pain, lower-back pain, and shoulder pain, because those are our top three; one, two, three, in that order,” she said, referring to the chronic ailments that bring patients to physical therapists.

“They can be very easily addressed

with the proper stretching and strengthening exercises, so that can get people in sooner rather than later,” she added, following an appointment fitting a patient with orthotics for shoes.

In addition, according to McLean, the 40 minutes per patient that she is allotted for evaluation allows her to get a deeper understanding of patients’ lifestyles – and perhaps factors contributing to other illnesses, whether physical or something deeper.

“I have walked several people down the hall (to other specialists, such as mental health or social work services professionals), because some of those aches and pains and joint things aren’t necessarily something that I can fix, because they’re not muscular-skeletal related. It’s coming from another spot. Still needs treatment,” she said.

For more information about PT throughout Bavaria and the services available, write McLean at Cynthia.mclean@us.army.mil.



Capt. Cyndi McLean, physical therapist consultant, fits a pair of orthotics on a patient’s foot.

Grafenwoehr Pharmacy addresses your frequently asked questions

■ What is the check-in procedure at the USAHC-Grafenwoehr Pharmacy?

Please take a number from our electronic call system in the main lobby and have a seat. Watch for your number to appear on the electronic screens. Once you see your number, proceed to the designated window on the screen with your ID card.

■ What is the estimated wait time to be seen at the pharmacy window?

The average wait is 10-15 minutes. Throughout the course of each day, waiting time can be more or less than the average, depending upon workload.

■ Can someone else pick up my prescriptions if I am not able to?

Yes. A family member or friend can pick up your prescription if they have your ID card or a copy of it, front and back.

■ Can my prescriptions, written by an outside provider (local national), be filled at USAHC-Grafenwoehr?

ONLY if all requirements below are met:

1. Local national physician must be a Tricare authorized provider
2. Prescription must be for a U.S. Drug that is on the formulary
3. Both quantity and directions must be written clearly in English

■ Can I get a cold pack from the pharmacy?

No. USAHC-Grafenwoehr Pharmacy does not carry a standard cold pack. We do, however, carry a few over-the-counter items, in limited quantities, that are given for certain symptoms. In order to receive

over-the-counter medication, take a number from our electronic number system and have a seat in the lobby with your ID card ready. If we do not have the OTC in stock, you may be able to purchase the item at your local PX.

■ If I run out of my medication before my next appointment, can I get a courtesy refill?

Yes. We will give you enough to cover you until your appointment date. An appointment slip must be presented to receive a courtesy refill.

■ Do I have to call in my refills?

Yes. Refill call-in is mandatory at all USAHC-Grafenwoehr Pharmacies. Refill requests will not be processed at the windows. The refill call-in numbers are DSN 486-5601 or CIV 00800-7446-2500. Refill instruction pamphlets can be picked up at the pharmacy.

■ What is the difference between a refill and a renewal?

A *refill* is a current ongoing medication that you can receive over again without seeing your provider. Mandatory call-in to our automated system is required. A *renewal* is a current ongoing medication that the provider places in the system when your refills run out on your current prescription. Renewals are picked up at the pharmacy window as new prescriptions.

We enjoy providing your pharmacy needs and look forward to seeing you in the future. Further questions can be answered by calling DSN 475-7431 or CIV 09641-83-7431 or simply ask at the window.

Tired of apples? Try tomatoes!

Capt. CHERITA OGUNSANYA, RD, LD
Special to the Bavarian News

Most Americans are familiar with the term; “An apple a day keeps the doctor away”. Surprisingly, many people follow this statement very closely. The premise behind this saying comes from the fact that the apple is a multi-nutrient containing fruit. It contains Vitamins A, C, and dietary fiber.

These things are all thought to contribute to the prevention and/or reduction of certain cancer and disease risks. But as we all know, too much of one thing (as beneficial as it may be) can become very boring. In the case of apples, there are alternative fruits/vegetables that are just as nutritious.

The tomato meets these criteria. Studies have shown that eating tomatoes or tomato products on a regular basis lessens the likelihood that persons will suffer from cancer, coronary heart diseases and other chronic illnesses. The “secret” ingredient in tomatoes is lycopene. It is the substance that gives tomatoes and other fruits/vegetables their red color. It is an antioxidant that has been proven to lower the risk of cancer and heart disease. Antioxidants help prevent and repair the damaged cells.

One Harvard study in particular reports up to 34 percent risk reduction of cancer in those subjects who consumed at least one serving of tomato-based product twice a week, as opposed to those who did not consume it at all. In addition to that factor, tomatoes are low in fat, calories, are cholesterol free, and are a daily source of fiber and vitamin C. This fact also holds true for tomato products (i.e. juice, sauce, paste, and ketchup). The lycopene contained in tomato products is actually used more efficiently than raw tomatoes by the body. Because of the temperature changes that occur during processing, the lycopene converts to a form that

is more readily absorbed by the body.

Although there have been no nutritional recommendations made for the amount of lycopene that needs to be consumed, taking in at least two eight oz glasses of tomato juice daily greatly increases the amount of lycopene in the body. Lycopene can also be found in other foods such as pink grapefruits, guava, and watermelon; however, tomatoes have the richest source. One of the highest sources of lycopene in tomato products is found in spaghetti sauce. A serving size of 1/2 cup of spaghetti sauce provides 28.1 milligrams of lycopene.

Below is a recipe for spaghetti sauce that is delicious as well as nutritious. Enjoy!

Chicken Spaghetti Sauce

Ingredients:

- 1 c water
- 1 c chopped onion
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 3/4 tsp. salt
- 1 tbsp. chopped fresh or 1 tsp. dried oregano
- 2 tsp. chopped fresh or 3/4 tsp. dried basil
- 1 clove crushed garlic
- 1 bay leaf
- 8 oz tomato sauce
- 6 oz tomato paste
- 1 1/2 c cut-up cooked chicken
- 5 c hot cooked spaghetti

Heat water and all ingredients except chicken and spaghetti to boiling in a 10 in skillet; reduce heat. Cover and simmer 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Stir in chicken.

Cover and simmer 30 minutes longer; stirring occasionally. Remove bay leaf and serve over spaghetti.

Nutritional content per serving: 280 calories, 17 grams protein, 4 grams fat, 30 milligrams cholesterol.

This recipe is taken from the files of Al Rice, North Pole Alaska.

Marshall Center Library earns top honors

by ANNE FUGATE

Special to the Bavarian News

The Marshall Center Research Library was honored as the best small library in the U.S. federal government during a ceremony at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. Oct. 12.

The Library of Congress' Federal Library and Information Center Committee annually recognizes both a large and a small library for their innovation in meeting their customers' information needs.

The Marshall Center Research Library, with nine staff members, won the 2006 Federal Library/Information Center of the Year award in the small library category.

The FLICC awards, announced in June, were presented by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington during the committee's 24th annual forum. In accepting the Marshall Center's award, library director Marcy Hampton noted how far-reaching the efforts of the staff are.

"This multi-lingual, multi-cultural group of individuals transformed library services to a diverse clientele from all over the world—Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and Africa. They rose to the challenge of providing library support in three languages, introduced new programs and efficiencies and enhanced services, despite their small numbers," Hampton said.

"I couldn't be prouder of their achievements acknowledged by this award. It was simply the right group of people at the right time."

The Marshall Center Research Library serves military and civilian officials participating in the programs of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, a U.S.-German security and defense studies institute. In 2006



Photo by Karlheinz Wedhorn

Marshall Center librarian Andrew Adaryukov (right) introduces participants in the Program in Advanced Security Studies to on-line databases they have access to not only while they are attending the course in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, but also once they have graduated and returned to their own countries.

the staff worked with more than 800 course participants from 80 countries.

FLICC cited the library for its effectiveness, versatility and dedication to its customers in carrying out a series of initiatives designed to help program participants make the most of resources available to them not only at the

Marshall Center, but also back in their home countries.

It is just as important for course participants to know how to use the library's resources once they leave the Marshall Center as when they are in residence, according to Hampton.

"When [participants] go home and are in their

ministries, they continue to have access to library resources through the on-line Knowledge Portal. They can utilize the resources to prepare a report or analyze a situation. They wouldn't have access to so many commercial database products without their (Knowledge Portal) password," Hampton said.

"It might be statistical information or market information or strategic security studies. It might come from databases that aggregate open source journal literature or from databases developed for a specific target audience, such as Jane's Terrorism Insurgency Center database. A student who knows how to use those resources to his advantage will be a much more valued player in his country."

The library boasts 56,000 books, 350 journals and newspapers and 15 electronic databases, along with research training classes and research assistance to help course participants take advantage of those resources. The library does business in the same three languages in which the Center conducts its residential courses, English, German, and Russian.

One of the library's major projects in 2006 was switching the catalog of its 22,000 Russian titles from transliterated Russian to Cyrillic.

"A Russian-speaking student wouldn't necessarily recognize the Latin letters that spell out *Pravda*. For a student trying to research Russian-language titles, [the transliterated Russian] was tough," Hampton said.

"Now, our Russian-language holdings can be searched in Cyrillic. Our alumni in Russia or the Ukraine can search our catalog, view a journal article that looks interesting, request an inter-library loan or check out an electronic book. It is one of the ways we're trying to serve our alumni."

'Tops in Blue' perform in Garmisch



Photo by Karlheinz Wedhorn

The U.S. Air Force group "Tops in Blues" warms up an audience of about 800 at the Kurpark in Grainau Oct. 16. The choral ensemble played to an audience of Grainau residents, including Buergermeister Andreas Hildenbrandt, and the international communities of the Marshall Center and the U.S. Army Garrison-Garmisch.

Garmisch Players gives community Halloween laughs

by JOHN REESE

Bavarian News

The Garmisch Players entertained audiences for two October weekends with their "Halloween Extravaganza of One Act Plays" at the Community Theatre on Artillery Kaserne.

"Every actor is a volunteer," said Lorraine Webb, who directed four of the skits, designed the sets, and gave a creepy reading of the Victorian poem "The Spider and the Fly." "We just do it because we love it!"

The performance of the Oct. 20 program that drew the most laughs, "Decks," used a mischievously clever play on words as a clique of beer-swilling good ol' boys innocently rambled on about their patios.

The best actress of the evening was Sherri Collier, impressive in her role as Hattie Dealing, a Mississippi sharecropper's daughter trading gossip with her small town Texas neighbors.

Collier, done up in a red wig that

would've made Peg Bundy proud, maintained a deep-South accent as she delivered the saucy zingers in "Laundry & Bourbon."

Meg Walsh gave a convincing performance in the same play as a prissy, nosy neighbor driving miles out of her way to feed the gossip mill. Walsh demonstrated her theatrical versatility by directing the last skit of the evening.

Best actor of the evening was Daniel Regelbrugge as a bashful, drooling Franklin Stein in "The Family Recipe," playing opposite to Cedric Simpson's most unusual performance as Maeve West. The duo had the audience cracking up with their delivery and their physical comedy.

The Halloween program wrapped up Oct. 28. The next play, "A Tuna Christmas," will take place Dec. 6-8. Those interested in participating or attending the production should contact theatre director Stephen Simpson at stephen.simpson@freenet.de for details.

Students enjoy treasure hunt, hike in snow for PTA's fundraiser

by JOHN REESE

Bavarian News

A band of 45 children and 35 adults braved cold and snow Oct. 20 to hike Drehmoser-9 as part of a treasure hunt-hike fundraiser for the Garmisch Parent-Teachers Association's "Wonderful Wednesday" program.

The children climbed the hill in six groups, with those ranging from second to eighth grade making the trek up the Hausberg while the kindergarteners and first-graders rode the Kreuzeckbahn.

"There was one kindergartener who did the Hausberg up and back without complaints," said Bridgett Rhodes, trip organizer for the Garmisch PTA.

It was feared that many of the participants would cancel because of the snow that began the previous evening and continued to fall, said Rhodes, but the turnout was very strong.

Two of the adults, Rob Neubauer dressed as an alien and Abigail Pratt as a witch, endured the cold to surprise the children, demanding they answer a riddle in exchange for a treat.

The snow only added to the adventure, said Rhodes. "One of the groups ambushed another—there were snowball fights on the way up," said Rhodes.

Wonderful Wednesday is a PTA program for Garmisch youths that provides 10 weeks of downhill ski instruction. The program begins in January on Wednesday afternoons from 1-4:30 p.m.

“There were snowball fights on the way up.”

Bridgett Rhodes
Garmisch PTA



Rosy-faced cheeks of the little children from the Garmisch American School are all smiles after hiking the Hausberg. An unexpected early snow added excitement to the treasure hunt and hike.

Photo by
Roxy Reece

Spotlight: MWR salutes CLEOS clerk

Special to the Bavarian News

The CLEOS Office serves as a family's first stop for registering for Child and Youth Services child care programs and youth services. At the center of this process is the CLEOS administrative assistant, Shawna Baudoux, said Alfonso Walker, CLEOS director.

Baudoux has been employed with CYS for approximately two and a half years, of which about half has been at the CLEOS front office. She serves patrons with high quality, enthusiastic service each day.

Baudoux is a motivated and valued member of the CYS team. She has received numerous

positive ICE comment cards from customers during her tenure at CLEOS.

Baudoux from Center, Colo., is married with a 3-year-old son, Leon. Her husband, Leon, is a staff sergeant working with HHC 1/4 Infantry Battalion. The family lives in Schmidtmuehlen and enjoys outdoor activities including hiking. They have been in Hohenfels for five years.

Baudoux is closing in on two undergraduate degrees; one in accounting/business and a second in industrial engineering.

"It is very rewarding to work with the families here in the Hohenfels community to help them find solutions for their child care needs," Baudoux said.

"I feel we are bettering the community by providing a means for our Hohenfels parents involve themselves in our community by working and volunteering. Our services help reduce family stress, especially during deployments by offering a variety of benefits and services to our patrons. It is a very exciting experience to help our parents find programs for their children that will help them learn and grow both individually and socially."

Shawna Baudoux, CLEOS administrative clerk, is honored in this issue's Spotlight.



Photo by Garry Barrows

K-9 team begins Red Ribbon Week with a howl

Story and photo by
ELIZABETH MAULDIN
Special to the Bavarian News

Students at Hohenfels Elementary School spent a lot of time with Blackie, Dino, and Bobby Oct. 22. If those do not all sound like names of your children's friends, you are right: Blackie, Dino, and Bobby are members of the K-9 Unit at Hohenfels. They, along with their handlers, made an appearance at the Post Theater to kick off activities for Red Ribbon Week.

The Red Ribbon Campaign is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the United States, each year reaching millions of young people during Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 23-31.

The Campaign began when drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered DEA agent Kiki Camarena in 1985. His senseless death was the inspiration for beginning the tradition of displaying Red Ribbons as a symbol of intolerance towards the use of drugs.

The mission of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to present a unified and visible commitment towards the creation of a drug-free America.

Blackie, Dino, and Bobby, along with their handlers, Staff Sgt. Michael Crerend, Sgt. Andrew Gohn, and Sgt. Roy Reedy, ran through a series of exercises demonstrating various aspects of the dogs' training.

The animals begin their training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, and continue the regiment at their duty station. Dogs and their handlers begin the process early, building trust and establishing the relationships that allow for the quick responses necessary for the tremendous responsibilities these dogs face.

Handlers, too, have an eleven-week program to teach them how to train the dogs under their control.

Bobby demonstrated his drug-searching ability as Reedy explained that the exercises are like a game to the dogs. Once they find their target items, be it drugs or explosives, the dogs are rewarded with a toy and playtime.

"It's a game to them," Crerend said.

Drug dogs are taught to find are marijuana, cocaine, and heroin.

Blackie demonstrated another aspect of the dogs' duties by attacking a "suspect" who was menacing the handler. Crerend explained to the rapt students the dogs are trained to automatically attack at sudden or aggressive movements towards their handlers.

Gohn ran Dino through a series of voice and hand commands demonstrating for the students how quickly the dogs respond to even basic obedience.

All demonstrations were followed by a question and answer session with the students, almost all of whom stretched hands up excitedly, hoping to be called on. Questions were generally geared to expand on the specifics of training that the dogs receive.

The remaining days of Red Ribbon Week are celebrated with a variety of activities, most of which allow students to wear clothes or accessories that reflect the drug-free theme.

Today, students are wear either sweatshirts or sweatpants because "Living Drug Free is No Sweat;" tomorrow is the traditional red to "Take a Stand for a Drug Free Land;" and Friday, their favorite sports team's shirt to signify that they "Team Up Against Drugs."



Members of the K-9 team put on an exhibition for HES Oct. 22. Handlers explained that the dogs think of it as a game and are rewarded after every find they make.

Career Practicum gives students real-world work experience

by BOB DELONGE
Special to the Bavarian News

Career Practicum is a Department of Defense Education Activity sponsored program concerned with the growth and development of each student in the real-life workforce.

It is considered a culminating experience, based on the skills and knowledge learned from the student's chosen professional technical studies strand of courses in a particular career cluster.

It is also designed to offer the opportunity to explore different careers; acquire school to career experience through a work practicum; and prepare the student for college or the workplace.

In addition, the student and the Career Practicum coordinator will work together for suitable placement in an area of student interest.

At Hohenfels High School, over 50 students in 82 periods are engaged in the Career Practicum program this year. Thanks to a cooperative effort of Michele Wolff, School Liaison, and Bob DeLonge, Career Practicum Coordinator, the students were placed within the first three weeks of school.

Many who were employed in the Summer Hire program continued in the Career Practicum program. Students were required to complete a resume and a job interview with their prospective supervisor.

Presently, students are employed



Photo by Michele Wolff

Career Practicum program participant Jeremy Crook work with Auto Shop Coordinator Rainer Smith to learn correct procedures to balance tires.

at the Auto Skills Center, Bowling Alley, Burger King, Bus Office, Chapel Office, Club Beyond, Commissary, DFAC 1-4 Dining Facility, Elementary School, Fitness Center, HDD-USAG, MWR Facilities, Post Library, PX, Sunrise Lodge, Vet Clinic, Youth Sports, and the Zone.

In the past, we have also had students employed at CDC, Pxtra/Shopette, Raytheon, Arts and Crafts Center,

Dental Clinic, Health Clinic, DPW-Environmental, DOL, Airfield Safety, Airfield-Falcons, Vipers, and CAC.

Local employers can contact DeLonge at DSN 466-3162 or Wolff at DSN 466-2783 if you are interested in the Career Practicum program.

As local employers, you can help students gain the work experience that is essential in the real world of work and help them decide which career force is the best for them.

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Look for the Bavarian News online at www.milcom.de

International shooting competition tests Hohenfels shooters against other nations

Story and photo by
GARRY BARROWS
Bavarian News

The Harry Framke International Shooting Competition (Schiessen) was held Oct. 13 at the Regensburg Bajuwaren Barracks training area bringing expert shooters from seven countries together including teams from the Hohenfels Falcons Observer/Controller team and USAG Hohenfels Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment.

In addition to the Schiessen, the German Marksmanship award, the Schutzenschneir, was available to all participants who qualified.

The event, named after Bundeswehr Lt. Col. Framke who was instrumental in forming the sponsoring organization for reservists in the Oberpfalz as well as a national guard program, began in 1996 and was hosted this year by Oberstleutnant (Lt. Col.) Hans Stockmeier.

Two German weapons are used in this competition, the Heckler & Koch P-8 handgun, similar to the 9mm pistol, and the MG3 machine gun, which has been in military use for more than 35 years.

The MG3 is a German, air-cooled, gas operated, belt fed general-purpose machine gun that is currently or has been used by more than 30 countries.

2nd Lt. Frank Gagel, one of the German instructors, noted that a

precursor of this gun was used during World War II, and the expertise that produced a weapon that has been used since 1968 is practically incomparable.

“The engineering was perfect, then and now,” Gagel said.

There were two phases to the competition for each weapon. The first was untimed while the second required all rounds, 15 for the machine gun and six for the pistol, to be fired within 20 seconds.

Sgt. 1st Class Hubert Beer, another German instructor, indicated “normally German Soldiers qualify on the timed event better.”

Falcon Team member Major Marshall Tway agreed as he told his team, “Don’t think too much.”

Several contestants were surprised by the limited amounts of ammunition allotted to each person, but Capt. Samuel Fishburne commented it is all part of the aim of the competition.

“It teaches accuracy. If you’re accurate, you make them all count,” he said.

There were several classifications of excellence for each weapon as hitting the target five out of six with the P-8 designated a gold marksman while it took 12 of the 15 machine gun hits for that award.

Often marksmen have special habits and unique routines to prepare for a competition. Staff Sgt. Dean Cullum is no exception as he shoots

while wearing Interceptor Body Armor.

“I have gotten so used to it, I can’t shoot without it,” explained Cullum, who won the silver Schutzenshneir badge.

The most important awards are team and individual recognition. The team of Capt. Simon Lee, Sgt. 1st Class John Wheeler, Staff Sgt. Patrick Freeney, and Sgt. Jarrad Williams took second place among more than 20 teams, the first time in memory a Hohenfels team has placed so highly.

Lee also took second place in individual competition, an impressive accomplishment against so formidable a field.

Five German Schutzenshneir awards were earned by the Hohenfels contingent; Cadet Logan Allen, a member of the Hohenfels High School JROTC and Cooperative Work Experience Program, Wheeler, Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Adams, Spc. Steven Orr, and Cullum.

Cadet Logan Allen, a member of the Hohenfels High School JROTC is given instruction in the use of the German MC3 Machine Gun by 2nd Lt. Frank Gagel during the Harry Framke International Shooting Competition held Oct. 13 at the Regensburg Bajuwaren Barracks training area.



Reception recognizes German Health Care Provider network

Story and photo by **GARRY BARROWS**
Bavarian News

The 2007 German Health Care Provider Network was recognized for the provision of outstanding medical care to the Hohenfels community by the Joint Multinational Readiness Center and the United States Army Garrison Hohenfels at a reception at the Hilltop Chapel Center Oct. 13.

“Over the years, more and more of the medical care required by Hohenfels residents is being provided on the economy,” Lt. Col. Robert Smith, Commander of the Hohenfels Health Clinic, explained. “The reception demonstrates the comradery between the Americans and the Germans as partners in providing high quality health care.”

Smith noted the German Health Care Provider Network has been in place for over 10 years. In fact, much of it was put together and is continually refined by long-time clinic employees Hella Wagner, the clinic’s Benefits Counselor and Assistance Coordinator, and Patient Liaisons Trevor Gillies and Evie Schwenzl.

“Health care in Germany is at the same quality level as in the States and is better than we can provide,” Smith said, although he was quick to say the medical care at the clinic is excellent, but due to it’s size and mission is unable to provide the scope and technological sophistication available from the network.

“We’re low tech compared to them”, Smith said, “but I am totally confident of the care they offer because of the checks and balances built into the system.”

Smith says there is feedback received on every patient seen by the care network, a review



Dr. Rainer Munzinger, (left) the Director of the Kreiskrankenhaus Parsberg and Dr. Ludwig Hecht, well-known doctor of sports medicine talk with Lt. Col. Robert Smith, Commander of the Hohenfels Health Clinic, during the 2007 German Health Care Provider Network Reception held at the Hilltop Chapel Center Oct. 13.

of every consultation, as well as third person oversight of procedure and suggested treatment.

Smith, a pediatrician, is himself a third person reviewer on cases that involve infant care.

Dr. Ludwig Hecht, a regionally known doctor of sports medicine who has treated many Hohenfels residents during his many years in the provider network, feels a personal

appreciation to America and Americans as his father’s side of the family immigrated to California and he spent several years studying and practicing in the States.

“Since World War II, look how much they have helped us,” Hecht said. “This reception demonstrates the friendship that exists and I want to provide (in my practice) the friendship and hospitality I felt when I was in America. I want to be a good host.”

Smith noted the German health care system is more specialized than American health care, meaning a hospital will have a specialty like the Kreiskrankenhaus Parsberg which focuses on internal medicine. A patient at the Hohenfels clinic who suffers a heart attack would immediately be sent there.

Dr. Rainer Munzinger, the hospital director, is very comfortable working with the clinic.

“The staff will call in for an appointment. (It is a good system and) we really have no problems,” Munzinger explained. “I know all the people in the clinic. I know who I am talking to and I trust their judgment. If they say a patient has a severe problem, I know it’s a severe problem.”

Smith indicated if you were in a car accident, you would be sent to the Regensburg University Hospital, which is the trauma center for this entire area of Germany, and they are prepared.

“There would be a doctor called a ‘Traumatologist’ in charge of the team that would be treating you,” Smith said.

Smith said he felt fortunate to have stepped into a great system of quality medical care providers and the reception was not simply a formality, but a heartfelt response for the outstanding care they provide this community.

Bringing the product to your door: Hohenfels Furniture Expo a success

Story and photo by **GARRY BARROWS**
Bavarian News

It was AAFES Furniture Expo time again in Hohenfels and judging by the results, it was just what the community wanted.

The three-day biannual event turns the Community Activity Center into a huge furniture display, providing residents a great chance to see brand new furniture in living room, dining room, and bedroom groupings to imagine what it might look like in their home. There were also hundreds of other home furnishing accessories including appliances, entertainment units, lamps, bookshelves, and accent pieces.

“The thing that surprised me,” explained Sam Shinault, Hohenfels PX Manager, “were the

sales on the first day. The volume was a lot higher (than the spring sale). People were waiting at the door. When they came in, it was like a race. They started buying.”

Shinault explained that the furniture arrived in Hohenfels differently than Expo I.

“It was staged directly here from the manufacturer in the States. Last time it came from Vilseck,” Shinault said.

While the total sales were less than Expo I, Shinault was still pleased.

“We finished up with a sales total of close to \$40,000 for the three days. Even though the sales were less than the last furniture expo, the support and involvement from the Hohenfels community was still overwhelming,” Shinault said.

Shinault felt the weather, day one being a

brilliant warm sunny day and day three being cold with rain and even a little snow, was a factor in limiting the turnout.

Shinault, along with Grafenwoehr AAFES Consolidated Exchange General Manager Matt Mennona, wish to thank MWR, the garrison command, and the Hohenfels community for their great support and ask that everyone make plans now for the Spring AAFES Hohenfels Furniture Expo.

Air Force Lt. Col. John and Heather Scotto explore several living room ensembles looking for furniture for their family room.



What’s Happening

Grafenwoehr/ Vilseck Briefs

General announcement

Army Col. Donald L. Rutherford has been nominated for promotion to the grade of brigadier general with assignment as deputy chief of chaplains, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C. Rutherford is currently serving as command chaplain, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Germany.

Annual meter readings

During the period beginning of November 2007 until end of January 2008 the electricity supplier EnBW (Energie Baden Wuerttemberg) will do the annual meter readings in the Grafenwoehr and Vilseck GHRP and Leased Housing areas. The personnel will have identification cards, which will show that they are from the electricity supplier EnBW. Please provide them access to your electricity meter.

For information contact Barbara Boesl at DSN 476-2207.

Red Cross Volunteer Dental Assistant Program

Training Program Information:
■ 64 hours of classroom training
■ 300 hours of clinical experience to be completed within six months
■ Minimum of 12-15 hours a week volunteering in the clinic
All program guidelines must be strictly adhered to for successful completion of the course.
Applications must be submitted no later than Nov. 16.
For an application or more information, contact ARC Vilseck DSN 476-1760, CIV 09662-83-1760, Bldg. 700 Room 23 or ARC Grafenwoehr DSN 475-1760, CIV 09641-83-1760, Bldg. 244 Room 220.

Red Cross gift wrapping

At the Grafenwoehr PX, Nov. 23 – Dec. 24 during PX duty hours. Donations requested for gift wrapping services.

Health, safety classes

■ CPR- Dec. 1, 9 a.m.- 5 p.m.
■ First Aid- Nov. 10, 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. and Dec. 8, 8 a.m.- 1 p.m.
Class fees must be paid in advance by calling the Vilseck ARC at DSN 476-1760, or CIV 09662-83-1760.

AFN links Soldiers, Families

Call it a connection between deployed Soldiers and their Families. A new link on the AFN Bavaria Web site takes deployed Soldiers to videotaped greetings from their Families. It also features photos of our troops in Iraq. AFN Bavaria will soon add all of the TV stories produced about our deployed Soldiers, more photos, and greetings from the troops to their Families. Go to www.afneurope.net/bavaria and click the link called, “Our Deployed Soldiers” at the bottom left side of the screen.
Looking for the most up-to-date weather information? Tune in to AFN’s live shows from 5-10 a.m. and 2-6 p.m. weekdays for the most recent weather warnings, traffic information, and closures. Also check the Web site for school and road closures, www.afneurope.net/bavaria.

Trick or Treat hours

Trick or Treat for Grafenwoehr and Vilseck will be 5-7 p.m. today.

Halloween cosmic bowling

Join the Graf and Vilseck Bowling Centers for some cosmic bowling on Halloween. Stop by from 5 p.m. to close to enjoy all sorts of spooky fun. For more information, call the bowling center at Graf, DSN 475-6177 or Vilseck, DSN 476-2576.

Garrison school update

Information is available at each school Web site:
<http://www.graf-es.eu.dodea.edu/>
<http://www.vils-es.eu.dodea.edu/>
<http://www.graf-ms.eu.dodea.edu/>
<http://www.vils-hs.eu.dodea.edu/>
School contact information:
GES: DSN 475-7133
VES: DSN 476-2812
GMS: DSN 475-9500
VHS: DSN 476-2554
Transportation: DSN 475-8954
Dates

■ Nov. 2: All Schools will be closed for Teacher Workday.
■ Nov. 12: All Schools will be closed to observe Veterans Day.
■ Nov. 15-16: VES and GES will be closed for Parent-Teacher conferences
■ Nov. 16: GMS and VHS will be closed for Parent-Teacher conferences

Parent to Parent workshops

■ Today: Talk, Listen and Connect!: 10 a.m. in the Vilseck CYS conference room, Bldg 224. Free childcare available – call CYS Central Registration at CIV 09662-83-2760 to reserve your space! We will discuss ways to use the Elmo Video and other tools to boost communication between family members during the deployment. Participants will receive the Elmo Video for free. Part two of a four-part deployment series.
■ Tuesday - Your Military Sponsored European Education: Part of the ACS Welcome to Bavaria course (pre-registration for Welcome to Bavaria is required, call ACS at CIV 09662-83-8650). Being stationed overseas provides your family limitless opportunities for personal growth and continuing education. Even going to a Volksfest can support academic success. This workshop will provide ideas, resources, and activities to help your child’s education come alive.

■ Tuesday - Creating Successful Readers: A SKIES Workshop While You Wait – open to the public. Noon – 1 p.m. in the Graf Field House Gym, Bldg. 547. Reading is the most important skill a child can develop for academic success. The family’s role in reading starts at birth and continues throughout life. This workshop will share researched ideas and fun ways to develop reading habits for the family.
■ Nov. 8 – Supporting Your Child’s Education: Part of the Army Family Team Building Level I class (pre-registration for AFTB Level I is required, call ACS at CIV 09662-83-8650). This course reinforces the importance of parental involvement in a child’s education.
■ Nov. 18 – Tell Me A Story – Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot: Join us from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Vilseck Elementary School Multipurpose room for this event. The mission of Tell Me a Story is to use literature as a tool for connecting parents and children as well as to provide opportunities to open up discussion on difficult topics such as deployment, separation, and moving. Special guest speaker will be Col. Boyle, USAG commander. Every family present will receive a free copy of the book. Space is limited, so register now.

For more information about these and other available workshops from the MCEC Parent to Parent Team, contact us at CIV 0175-648-2777 or GrafVilseckParent2Parent@yahoo.com.

Estate claims

Anyone having claims on or obligations to the estate of Sgt. Robert Ayres of 3rd Squadron, 2d SCR should contact the following summary court martial officer, 2nd Lt. Robert Louis Ali at DSN 476-5405.

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Spc. Jason Nicholas Marchand of 3rd Squadron, 2d SCR, should contact the Summary Court Martial Officer, 1st Lt. Pauline Harris, at DSN 476-5405/5409.

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Sgt. Randell Olguin of 1st Squadron, 2d SCR, should contact the Summary Court Martial Officer, Capt. Emmanuel Sioson, at DSN 476-5228/5213.

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Pfc. Gilberto Alexander Meza, of 3rd Squadron, 2d SCR, should contact the Summary Court Martial Officer, 2nd Lt. Percy Washington, at DSN 476-2329.

Anyone having claims on or obligations to the estate of CPL Wayne M. Geiger of 3rd Squadron, 2d SCR should contact the following Summary Court Martial Officer, CPT Chris Yoshida at DSN 475-9636 or christopher.yoshida@eur.army.mil.

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Sgt. Joseph B. Milledge of the 3rd Squadron, 2nd SCR should contact the summary court officer, 1st Lt. Joseph Walker at DSN 476-5349 or CIV 0162-297-2166.

Anyone having any claims on or obligations to the estate of Spc. Avealalo Milo of 2nd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Calvary Regiment, should contact summary court officer, 1st Lt. Daniel Jackan at DSN 426-5848.

AWAG registration now open

The American Woman’s Activities, Germany Oberpfalz Area Conference will be held Nov. 17 from 8:45 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. at the CATC Bldgs. 355, 378 and 379, in Vilseck.

A light breakfast, lunch, classes and great door prizes are included in the \$20 registration. Class topics include: Deployment issues, Professional Development, Self Help and Volunteering. Guest speaker, Brig. Gen. David Hogg, will address the attendees over lunch.

Pre-registration is required by Monday. Go to <http://www.awag.us/> and click on the Oberpfalz link to register online or to download a registration form.

For more information: Roseanna Cintron at CIV09641-454085 or e-mail: oberpfalz@awag.us.

Shape Stars and Stripes

Your opinion matters to Stars and Stripes, so participate in a reader focus group. We want your input for our Sunday entertainment and lifestyle publication, Scene. Attend a morning session from 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. or a noon to 1:30 p.m. session in Grafenwoehr Nov. 5 and Hohenfels Nov. 6 at community conference rooms. Sign up today for a chance to win an Ipod and other great prizes during focus group sessions. To participate, send an e-mail to marketing@estripes.osd.mil. For more information, call Cheryl Boujnida at DSN 349-8497 or CIV (06155) 601497.

Lost your bike? Look here!

The Vilseck City Hall and Vilseck MP Station have an abundance of unclaimed found property that is believed to belong to American personnel. The found property consists of bicycles, wallets, and clothing. The point of contact at the Rathaus is Ms. Felkl’s office which is located at #13 Marktplatz, 92249 Vilseck, her phone number is CIV 09662-9927. The point of contact at the Vilseck MP Station is Staff Sgt. Buchanan, DSN 476-2903. Remember, if you don’t secure your personnel property, someone else will.

AAFES sets holiday hours

PX and Mall Holiday Hours effective Nov. 12: Monday-Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday-Saturday: 10 a.m.- 9 p.m., Sunday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Food Court Holiday Hours effective Nov. 12: Monday-Thursday: 10:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday-Saturday: 10:30-8 p.m. (Charley’s, Subway & Baskin Robbins), 10:30 a.m.-9 p.m. (Popeye’s and Taco Bell), Sunday: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Mainstreet X-press! Holiday Hours effective Nov. 12: Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday: 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Sunday: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
All facilities will close at 4 p.m. on Dec. 24.

Garmisch Briefs

Visit the Iceman in Italy

Take a bus trip to “Oetzi” the frozen Iceman in Bolzano Italy this Saturday. The bus leaves from the PBCC at 7:30 a.m. and returns at 8 p.m. The program costs \$42, which includes the museum, or \$32 for only the markets and shops in Bolzano. The cost includes transportation and the possibility of all-day shopping for those who do not go to the museum. Bring euro for lunch in a restaurant.

Experience long weekend get-away to Berlin

Take the fall trip to Berlin over the long Veteran’s Day Weekend. Spend two and a half days in the exciting new capital of Germany. Three overnights in a hotel, and breakfast are included. One day of organized touring and the rest of the time will be free to pursue your own interests. The trip is Nov. 9-12. The train tour leaves Garmisch train station Nov. 9 at 4 p.m. and arrives in Berlin just after midnight. An afternoon train from Berlin will arrive back ni Garmisch late in the evening Nov. 12. The cost for this trip is approximately \$400.

See the ballet Nov. 14

See the ballet, Chamber Symphony/ the Song of the Earth – Music by John Adams and Gustav Mahler, in Munich Nationaltheater Nov. 14. The bus leaves PBCC at 4:30 p.m. and returns at 11:30 p.m. The program costs \$12 plus concert tickets.

Hohenfels Briefs

Thrift Shop News

The Thrift Shop will be open on tomorrow for extended hours from 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., these hours are for this day only. If we see an influx of customers during the extended hours of 3:30-6 p.m. then we will try to extend this for one Thursday per month. We are asking that you utilize this time and show us that this will work for our community. As well, starting Monday, the Thrift shop will be open for its winter hours of 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

ASC seeks volunteers with foreign language skills

The Army Community Services is looking to build a pool of volunteers with foreign language skills to assist with the Warrior Transition Unit Soldiers and Family members. They are looking for people with skills in any language, not just German. If you possess such a skill, and are willing to volunteer, contact Eva Garrett at the Army Community Services at DSN 466-2081.

Checking German mailboxes

All residents at Leased Family Housing Units are requested to check their German mailboxes on a daily basis. The Housing Facilities Office is sending important and recurrent information, such as appointments from contractors for oil deliveries, annual heater maintenance, chimney sweeping (mandatory by German Law) and other contractor maintenance.

Red Cross training programs

■ The CPR-First Aid instructor course is scheduled for Nov. 10 and Nov. 17 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Participants must be Red Cross-certified in CPR and First Aid to take the class. Anyone planning to sign up should contact ARC. Call Red Cross at DSN 466-1760 or CIV 09472-83-1760 immediately if you’re interested.
■ Dental assistant training program: The Grafenwoehr, Hohenfels, and Vilseck Dental Clinics, along with the American Red Cross, will be offering a Dental Assistant Training Program beginning in January 2008. The program is designed for those without dental assisting experience and requires 64 hours of in-class coursework and 300 hours of chair-side training. Applications are available and will be accepted through Nov. 16. Call DSN 466-1760 or CIV 09472-83-1760 for more information or stop by the Red Cross office to pick up an application.

Bowling center open for lunch

Lane 17 will now be open for lunch on Tuesdays. Check out the new lunch choices including Philly cheese steaks and soups. Also, sign up for the daily “Duty Bowl” to bowl anytime from 11 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Duty Bowl is only \$5.00 for two hours and includes free shoe rental!

CLEOS relocating

CLEOS is relocating and will be closed for customer services tomorrow through Tuesday. The CLEOS Office will re-open for services Nov. 7 in the new section of Bldg. 10, room 140. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience. This move will make CLEOS more accessible to the community, and allow us to better serve you. Our contact number will remain DSN 466-2078/2080 or CIV 09472-83-2078/2080.

ACS moving to new location

ACS will be moving from its current location in Bldg. 317 to a new state of the art facility at Bldg. 10. This will be happening Nov. 7-9, therefore ACS will be closed on those days. We will reopen for business as usual Nov. 13. This occasion will be marked with a grand opening ceremony that will take place Nov. 26 at 11 a.m. at Bldg. 10. This will also be the grand opening for the new Hohenfels Coffee Bar.

Club Beyond Update

Club Beyond is free. All youth (7th-12th grade) are welcome anytime. The regular weekly meetings will be cancelled for this week. Regular weekly programming will resume Tuesday.
Wade Conrad will be in concert at the Mug Coffeehouse Nov. 7 from 3:30-7 p.m. The concert is available for all youth 7th-12th grade and is completely free. Drinks and refreshments will be served for free as well.
We will be taking a Waterpark Trip to

Galaxy Erding Nov. 10. Transportation and lunch are included. The cost of the trip is the entry fee, which is 15 euro. This trip again is for all youth. Teens will be on their own for dinner. We will take the first 40 teens to sign up by e-mailing Chris Howard and reserving a spot. We will meet at the MS/HS at 8:30 a.m. for departure and arrive back between 8:30-9 p.m.

Dan Meyers will be in concert at the Mug Coffeehouse Nov. 14 from 3:30-7 p.m. The concert is available for all youth 7th-12th grade and is completely free. Drinks and refreshments will be served for free as well.

If you have any questions about these upcoming events or Club Beyond Hohenfels call Chris Howard at DSN 466-4793 or CIV 0151-1494-3311 or e-mail to reserve a spot for the waterpark trip at christopher.s.howard@eur.army.mil.

Noise makers not allowed

Although we have not enforced any type of noise makers at our football games there is a DoDDS Policy that specifically details noise makers of any type are not allowed at any DoDDS athletic competition. Parents are asked not to take any noise makers to the Big 6 football game at Baumholder. Thank you for your cooperation.

Welfare grants available

Did you know that last year the Hohenfels Community and Spouses Club awarded almost \$29,000 to many areas of the Hohenfels Community? The Boy and Girl Scouts, Hohenfels schools, Hurricanes swim team and Kontakt club are just a few of the organizations we have assisted. The welfare money we disburse is raised from our Thrift Shop, the HCSC Holiday Bazaar, and Wild West Night. If your organization would like to apply for funds, our next deadline is Nov. 20. Visit our Web site at www.hohenfelscsc.com and click on welfare to download an application or receive more information.

Holiday Bazaar coming soon

Hohenfels Holiday Bazaar - Nov. 9-11. The holiday season is upon us, and how better to kick it off than at a festive holiday bazaar! Coming up this Veteran’s day weekend, you can shop till you drop at the Hohenfels Community and Spouses Club in cooperation with Morale Welfare and Recreation annual Holiday Bazaar. Opening ceremonies begin Nov. 9 at 11 a.m.

Shopping Hours:
■ Friday – 11:15 a.m. to 8: p.m.
■ Saturday – 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.
■ Sunday – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Location: the Hohenfels Post Gym, Bldg. 88 and the Community Activities Center, Bldg. 40. Credit Cards accepted!

The HCSC is currently looking for volunteers to support the bazaar. We are in need of many volunteers as we will have nearly 50 vendors and will be using both the gym and the CAC. There will be a special hour set aside prior to the opening ceremony for volunteers and VIP’s to shop. Positions that need to be filled include, but are not limited to: Check/Credit card approver; Greeter/ID checker; Runner; Hospitality; Set-up / Tear-down. If you are willing to help, go to our Web site www.hohenfelscsc.com and click on bazaar to fill out the volunteer form, or e-mail Alicia Duvall at weduvall@aol.com.

Red Cross giftwrapping

The American Red Cross is sponsoring the annual holiday giftwrap program, a fundraising opportunity for private organizations and FRGs on post, from Nov. 23-Dec. 24 at the Hohenfels Main Exchange. Participating organizations choose shifts and man the booth during those shifts. All private organizations and FRGs interested in participating should contact the American Red Cross immediately by calling DSN 466-1760, sending an e-mail to redcrosshoehenfels@eur.army.mil, or stopping by the Red Cross office in Bldg. 335.

Join in ‘chick flick’ night

Calling all chicks! Join us for “Chick Flicks” the first Tuesday of every month at the Hilltop where we’ll take in a movie and fun foods to fit the movie theme. This month’s movie will be “13 Going on 30.” Come out and have some girl time Tuesday, from 9–11:30 a.m.! Childcare is provided for children ages 6 weeks through 5 years. This event is sponsored by PWOC. Contact Christy Hearn, chldybg3@hotmail.com, for more information.

What’s Happening

Ansbach Briefs

Trunk or Treat

Trunk or Treat takes place tonight at 6 p.m. at the Katterbach Youth Services parking lot and in Illesheim at 6 p.m. at the veterinary clinic parking lot between Bldgs. 6541 and 6620. Illesheim also hosts a haunted house in Bldg. 6508 from 5-7 p.m.

College Night held Nov. 7

The Ansbach Middle/High School hosts College Night Nov. 7 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The night will offer community members a chance to learn about education opportunities available from various accredited colleges and universities that will have representatives on hand.

There will also be a raffle to win two college prep baskets. All proceeds from the raffle will go to the Class of 2008 graduates to assist with their purchase of schoolbooks for college. The event will feature a 5 p.m. performance by the school choir and band and a tribute to veterans. The event is open to all U.S. identification card holders, and snacks and beverages will be available.

For more information, call the school counselor at DSN 467-2808 or CIV 09802-83-2808.

School supply collection

Ansbach High School Future Business Leaders of America is collecting school supplies for children in Iraq, and also students at an Enterprise, Ala., high school that was hit by a tornado earlier this year.

School supplies can be sent in with students or dropped off at the school in the office. Items should be packaged in a large Ziploc-like bag to make for easy distribution. Items in the package should be an eraser, small scissors, five pencils, package of colored pencils, ruler, pencil pouch, two folders, a three-ring binder, and a package of loose-leaf paper.

The group is also looking for infant and toddler clothing, children’s shoes, and diapers. Monetary donations are also accepted to help defray the costs of shipping the supplies.

For more information, call the school at CIV 09802—83-2808.

Community flea market

USAG Ansbach hosts its community flea market Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Von Steuben Community Center on Bismarck Kaserne.

People can rent tables for the event at a cost for a single space (3m x 3m) for \$10, a double space (3m x 6m) for \$16, and a table and two benches for \$5 per set. For more on the event, call DSN 468-7336 or CIV 0981-183-336, or send an e-mail to ans-mwr@eur.army.mil.

Parent to Tutors

The Parents to Tutors Program is kicking off soon in Ansbach and needs support from people who would like to make a difference with the community’s youth. The program needs people to serve as tutors to help students with their homework in math, science, history, language arts, Spanish, and German.

Tutor hours would be on the high school’s Gold Days from 2-3 p.m. Tutors do not need to have a degree or be a parent—just people willing to share their abilities and make a difference.

People interested can find out more at <http://myarmylifetoo.com> under Ansbach Middle/High School.

Music lessons

SKIES Unlimited recently started a music lesson program. The program offers guitar, voice, drum, and keyboard lessons to children ages 6-18 and also a program called Kinder Music to ages 1-6. Quarterly private lessons cost \$280, group lessons are \$210 and Kinder Music lessons cost \$130. For more on the program, call Bryan Osewalt at DSN 467-4639 or CIV 09841-83-4639.

Looking for bookworms

Bleidorn Library hosts a monthly book club discussion group and it is looking for more members. Books and the schedule of meeting dates are available at the main desk at the Bleidorn Library. For more information, call the library at DSN 468-1740 or CIV 0981-183-1740.

Free bowling

The Katterbach Bowling Center and Storck Barracks’ Apache Lanes offer free

bowling in November.

Katterbach hosts free bowling night Nov. 8 and 29 from 3-10 p.m. while the Apache Lanes holds it Nov. 7 and 21 from 5-9:30 p.m. The free bowling is available to all U.S. identification card holders. For more information, call Katterbach at DSN 467-2638 or CIV 09802-83-2638 and the Apache Lanes at DSN 467-4530 or CIV 09841-83-4530.

Preschool drama time

The Terrace Playhouse offers preschool drama time Thursdays from 10-11 a.m. The class is a parent and child interactive and directed playtime that is open to children ages 5 and up. It gives parents and children an opportunity to explore their creativity together.

The playhouse is located in Bleidorn Housing Area. For more information, call DSN 468-7636 or CIV 0981-183-636.

New chapel hours

The Katterbach and Illesheim chapels have new hours for their services.

At Katterbach, the Catholic service is at 9 a.m., Protestant at 11 a.m., Episcopal/Anglican at 1 p.m., Church of God in Christ at 2:30 p.m., and Hispanic Pentecostal at 4:30 p.m.

At Illesheim, the Protestant service is at 10 a.m. and the Catholic at 11:45 p.m.

For more information, call DSN 467-2785 or CIV 09802-83-2785.

U.S. Customs hours

The U.S. Forces Customs-Europe Office in Room 213 of Bldg. 5251 on Barton Barracks is open Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The office is closed on federal holidays. For more information, call DSN 468-7842 or CIV 0981-183-842.

Scholarships available

Each year, about 500 youths around the world win \$1,500 scholarships in the Scholarships for Military Children program. Children of active-duty and retired military, Reserve and National Guard members compete for the scholarships.

Applications for the fall 2008 school year should be available tomorrow, either at the Katterbach or Illesheim commissaries or on-line at militaryscholar.org.

The deadline for submitting applications to the commissary is Feb. 20.

Fore more information, contact Marie-Luise Glaser, Illesheim store manager at DSN 467-4717 or CIV 09841-8796 or e-mail her at marie.glaser@deca.mil.

Bamberg Briefs

Harvest fest offers Family fun

The Bamberg Community Chapel and MWR are sponsoring a Harvest Fest today from 6 to 8 p.m. in the Bamberg high school gymnasium. The Harvest Fest is an alternative to customary Halloween activities. There will be games, activities and candy for the whole family. Wear only Family friendly costumes. Call CIV 0951-300- 7452 for more information.

Trick-or-treating hours

The trick-or-treating hours for U.S. Army Garrison Bamberg Warner Barracks will be from 6 to 8 p.m. today.

BES needs sub teachers

Bamberg Elementary School is looking for qualified, experienced educators to fill substitute teaching positions. Applicants must have successfully completed education above high school level in an accredited college or university of at least two years of undergraduate education. Stop by the BES main office Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for an application or call DSN 469-7616 for more information.

Community fall clean-up

The annual USAG Bamberg fall clean-up will be Nov. 5-8. Bags of leaves and bulk will be picked-up at on-post housing Nov. 5-8. Leased and off-post housing should use City Bulk dates or bring bags of leaves and bulk to the recycling center.

Units have to take their bulk trash and bags of leaves to the recycling center and separate. For more information contact Mr. Weis at DSN 469-7598, DPW-Environmental Office or Housing Zone Coordinator Staff. Sgt.Tyrone King at DSN 469-7946.

Clean-up with Self-Help

The DPW Self-Help store has the equipment you need to clean up this fall. Trash bags, rakes, wheel barrows, shovels, brooms, and ladders are available. Self-Help is located at Bldg. 7039 across from the car wash. Operating hours are Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and closed on weekends and all German and American Holidays. For more information call Self-Help at DSN 469-7669.

Play Bingo, win prizes

The Bamberg Aqua Barons Swim Team is hosting a Bingo Night Nov. 7 in the high school multi-purpose room. Win all kinds of great European prizes including Polish pottery. Doors open at 6 p.m. Games start at 7 p.m. \$8 or \$15 packets are available which include playing cards and raffle tickets.

See ‘The Wizard of Oz’ at the Stable Theater

Follow the yellow brick road to the Stable Theater and reserve your seat today for “The Wizard of Oz” starting Nov. 8. The production is based on the movie and is a must-see for the entire family. The show will run Nov. 8-11 and 15-18. Tickets can be reserved by calling DSN 469-8647 and are \$9 for adults, \$7 for students, E4 and below.

Health clinic closed Nov. 8

The Bamberg Health clinic will be closed from noon to 4:30 p.m. Nov. 8 for mandatory staff training. This also includes physical therapy, social work services, and EDIS. All emergencies should go to the Bamberg Klinikum. The next training date will be Dec. 13. For more information contact the Bamberg Health clinic Executive Officer 1st Lt. Jose Sanfeliz at DSN 469-8619.

BSCC’s hosts masquerade, charity basket auction

Tickets are on sale now for the Bamberg Spouses’ & Civilians’ Club “A Night at the Masquerade” annual charity basket auction. Enjoy a festive evening of intrigue, mystery, and philanthropy Nov. 16, at 6 p.m. at the Warner Club. Cost is \$5 per person to participate in the live and the silent auction or \$15 per person with an Italian Dinner. Bidding paddles included! Remember to check your identity at the door, the most fanciful and creative mask wins.

Purchase tickets at the Thrift Shop during business hours or reserve your tickets by e-mailing auction@bsccgermany.com. RSVP by Nov. 14 to attend. Proceeds from all BSCC events help fund grants and scholarships for groups and members of the Bamberg Community.

Join the AWANA Club

AWANA, an international, non-denominational Children’s Ministry, will meet every Sunday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at the high school gym starting this Sunday. The club is open to all children ages 4-12. Registration is now open and forms are available at the Chapel. For more information, contact Luke Granger at the chapel DSN 469-8140.

Attend V.A. benefits briefing

Attend the next ACAP V.A. Benefits Briefing Nov. 7 from 8 a.m. to noon at the post movie theater. The briefing will explain what programs and services are available through the Department of Veterans Affairs. Open to entire military community. For more information contact Olivia at DSN 469-8925.

Attend V.A. DTAP briefing

Attend a Veterans Affairs, Disability Transition Assistance Program briefing Nov. 7 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at Preston Hall. This briefing is for service members who are planning to apply for Disability Compensation with the V.A. and provides information on the DTAP, including the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment services. The V.A. helps veterans with service-connected disabilities prepare for, find, and keep suitable employment. For veterans with serious service-connected disabilities, V.A. also offers services to improve their ability to live as independently as possible. For more information contact Olivia at DSN 469-8925.

November travels with ODR

Bamberg’s ODR November trips are on sale now! Take a tour under Bamberg Nov. 8. Head to Austria for a ski and snowboard weekend, Nov. 10-12. Join us at the historic Buttenheim Castle for a

three-course dinner and wine tasting on Nov. 16. Try new skis and snowboards in Austria during a Thanksgiving Holiday ski and snowboard trip, Nov. 22-25. Get your holiday shopping started on a trip to Karlovy-Vary and Cheb Nov. 24. Trips fill up quickly, so reserve your seat now. Contact the CAC for more info at DSN 469-8659.

Change to CMR customer service hours, temporary

Due to an early increase of holiday season mail, the CMR has changed the customer service window and package pick up hours. The change is temporary and not expected to last more than four weeks. The hours of operation will be: Monday through Friday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and then 4 to 6 p.m. Closed on Federal Holidays. Customers can still access their mailboxes 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information call Leland Samuels, Bamberg Postal Officer at DSN 469-7500.

CMR oversized mail pick-up

The CMR oversized package pick up is now located at the Transportation Motor Pool, Bldg. 7102. Customers will receive a notification slip with instructions in their mailbox and can pick-up oversized parcels from 1 to 2 p.m. or by appointment by calling DSN 469-8710. Oversized packages include items such as footlockers, car parts, bikes, or large toys etc.

Pizza night Fridays at DFAC

Every Friday come out to Ray’s Diner and enjoy all-you-can-eat pizza and spaghetti from 4:30 to 6 p.m. for only \$3.65. This offer excludes holidays and is sponsored by the 16th SB.

Register now for ASAP unit prevention leader training

The Army Substance Abuse Program is offering Unit Prevention Leader certification training Nov. 26 to 30. Each unit should have at least two currently certified UPLs. Candidates for UPL training must be E-5 or above, not currently enrolled in the ASAP, and not under investigation for any substance abuse related issue. For more information contact Darlene Copeland, Prevention Coordinator, at DSN 469-1710, or George Riddle, Drug Testing Coordinator, at DSN 469-7588. Registration deadline is Nov. 16.

SKIES Unlimited instructors

The Bamberg CYS SKIES Unlimited program is looking for instructors to teach classes in art, music, ballet, jazz, tap, fitness, sewing, computers, photography, cosmetology, SAT Prep, Spanish or any skill you may have that can be taught to the youth in the Bamberg community. SKIES is also looking for academic tutors. Contact Archie Johnson at DSN 469-7452 for more information.

ASAP 3D training set

3D training sessions will be offered on Dec. 4 and 6, and will run from 1 to 5 p.m. To register, contact Darlene Copeland, Prevention Coordinator, at DSN 469-7038.

Schweinfurt Briefs

B.O.S.S. events

Join Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers for classes, trips, and events this winter as part of the “I can do it” success series.

■ For free bowling and instruction, come to Kessler bowling alley. Drill a customized ball and then hit the lanes Nov. 15 starting at 8 p.m.

■ Learn about shop safety Nov. 8 at Conn Auto Skills Center, 6-9 p.m.

■ Take a free skiing or snowboarding class on the slopes during the four-day trip to Oetzal, Austria Nov. 22-25. Transportation is also free.

For more information on all three of these events, call B.O.S.S. President Sgt. James Smogonovich at DSN 354-6270 or 0170-725-6464.

Shop ‘til you drop

Teenagers between 12-18 years old are invited to attend Army Community Services’ Shop ‘til you drop Friday. Those interested should meet at ACS in Leighton and from there take local transportation to downtown shopping. Bring euro for bus fare, shopping, and food. For more information, call DSN

350-7103 or CIV 0931-889-7103.

Black forest trip

Join MWR for a free bus ride this fall and winter to various popular locations. Sign up to go to the black forest in Niederwasser on Saturday. Transportation is free. Bus departs Schweinfurt Volksfestplatz at 5 a.m. and Wuerzburg building 5 at 5:45 a.m. Return is scheduled for around midnight. For more information, call DSN 350-6305 or CIV 0931-889-6305.

Give thanks for military life

Join the Army Community Services class Thankful for being a military Family in the Ledward Yellow Ribbon Room Nov. 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. Learn ways to keep your Family together when life scatters you. For more information, call ACS at DSN 354-6933 or CIV 09721-96-6933.

Community Update Forums

The next Community Update Forums will be held in the Schweinfurt Elementary School gym Nov. 13 at 6 p.m. and at the Leighton Community Activities Center Nov. 14 at 6 p.m. The community is invited and encouraged to attend.

Attend city theater

Come to the city theater in Schweinfurt on Rossbrunnstrasse 2 for the performance of “The Magic Flute” opera by W.A. Mozart. Opera runs from Nov. 1-5 at 7:30 p.m. each evening. For tickets, call CIV 09721-51741 or CIV 09721-51475.

Flea, farmers’ markets

Various flea markets in Schweinfurt will be open for your perusal on Saturday. Come find treasures and good bargains. The farmers’ market in the market square will also be open Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. to sell fresh flowers, vegetables, and fruit.

■ Flea market on Wirsingstrasse 13 from 6 a.m. – 4 p.m.

■ “Meyers” flea market at the DJK sportsclub starting at 7:15 a.m.

■ Tierheim (animal shelter) at Alfred-Gaertner-Platz 3 from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Live Concert Friday

Armed Forces Entertainment presents “Scratchtrack,” R&B show at the Kessler Fitness Center Friday at 7 p.m. Check them out online as well at www.scrachtrackmusic.com. Come enjoy live entertainment at no charge.

Trip to crafters market

Join the Arts and Crafts Studio as they take a trip to Lauterbach Saturday to visit its crafters market and fall festival. Trip departs at 9 a.m. with plans to stop at a flea market. Reservations for a seat must be made in advance. Call the studio for more information at DSN 354-6903 or CIV 09721-96-6903.

Respite care

Child and Youth Services is giving you a break on super Saturday of every month with the next respite care on Nov. 10 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Don’t miss this opportunity to give yourself a break, go shopping, or just relax at home. Children will be cared for at no cost to families. It is open to all families with children 6 weeks old to 12th grade. Children must be registered with CYS and reservations must be made in advance. Parents with children 6 weeks through 5th grade can call central registration for reservations. The Teen Center and Middle School Zone will open at 9:30 a.m. on Nov. 10. Call CYS for more information at DSN 354-6517/ 6414 or CIV 0972196-6517/6414.

Computer classes offered

Sign up for a computer class through Army Community Services in November. Classes range from basic computer skills, Microsoft Word and Excel to Advanced Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, and Access. For each class, you will receive a certificate of completion. Classes are open to the entire community on first come, first served basis. Each class runs from 8 a.m. to 12:50 p.m. and is located at the Finney Gym Learning Center. For dates of each class call ACS at DSN 354-6933 or CIV 09721-96-6933.

Logo design competition

Schweinfurt Community Spouses’ Club is holding a 2007 logo design competition. Deadline for submission is midnight Nov. 15. Winning entry will receive \$100. Each participant is entitled to submit a maximum of three designs. E-mail submissions to scscmail@googlemail.com.

Shopping that feels like home:

Regensburg's 'American-style' malls

Story and photos by GARRY BARROWS
Bavarian News

Christmas Time. A festive part of the year that fills many, especially children, with warm and friendly feelings.

During this season, there are travel opportunities, family events, holiday parties, and special entertainment options like Christmas Markets that enhance this time of good cheer.

Oh, yes. It is generally a time of gift-giving when people show respect and admiration to family, friends, and co-workers. To some, this aspect of the season inspires other emotions like anxiety and worry caused by viewing the purchasing of these seasonal gifts as an insurmountable task.

It does not need to be this way! Do not procrastinate! Plan ahead. Determine your budget and shopping LIST now. Think about what those people on your list need and would appreciate. The thought you put into the gift selection will make it a personal event rather than a seasonal obligation.

It is then necessary to develop a shopping plan of action once you're armed with a well thought out list.

There are several options:
■ The Internet. There is always a huge selection, but it can be difficult to tell much about clothing, for example, from a picture. Many internet merchants do not ship to APO address. Returns are always easy and fast.

■ The Post Exchange. With the opening of the new Grafenwoehr facility, that playing field got much larger and being able to pay with dollars sure helps. Of course, there is the "Quintuplet Convention Syndrome" to consider. QCS occurs when a large percentage of the people on post are all wearing the same shirt, jacket, blouse, or slacks, and after a while, the "hey, you really have great taste, too" gets a little old.

■ Shop on the German economy. This option allows you to make selections that are cutting edge, unique, and stylish (many feel German clothing stores feature merchandise that is two years ahead of Penny's or Chadwick's), while adding an enriching cultural element to your shopping and gift giving.

While that may be true and attractive, many Americans do not want be too far off the beaten path. Good news, there are two "American style" malls in nearby Regensburg that will provide you a comfort level not to mention a massive and diverse selection of gifts. And just like in the States, there are sales, real markdowns, in every store.

Donau-Einkaufszentrum

*Weichser Weg 5, 93059 Regensburg;
Monday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.*
The easiest way to get there is to take A3 towards Regensburg to the Nittendorf exit. Take road 8 left and go about 14 kilometers and you're there.

With 135 places of business for you to explore, it is truly a one-stop shopping mall.

To avoid doing too much too soon, start off slowly at one of four department stores featuring the Galeria Kaufhof with four floors of name brands and outstanding selection. H&M, Woolworth, and C&A, more of a lower end provider, are also nearby.

Clothing is always a needed and thoughtful gift. There are 29 locations that sell clothes including at least ten woman's fashion stores. Six shoe stores will provide plenty of variety and styles to make your selection unique.

"I prefer shopping at the Donau Mall because of the selection available at the C&A and H&M for my daughter," explained Carol Stone, mother of a 5-year-old girl. "They also have a pretty good choice of petite clothing for me."

How about electronics? Saturn has everything from DVD players, televisions, washers, dryers, refrigerators, and microwave ovens to just an amazing number of coffee makers to choose from. And they do take our VAT form. It is necessary to go to the main customer service counter, as you do at Galeria Kaufhof, to get the paperwork in place, but it's worth it.

In addition, there are four bakeries; three butcher shops; a large fresh fruit and vegetable area; four banks; a complete

outdoor nursery store that stocks Christmas trees; a DM, an American-style drug store without the drugs, but with makeup, fragrances, and more; four phone stores, four vacation planning spots; several places for household items; three hair salons; four stores that specialize in intimate appeal; a key store; plus a variety of novelty and gift stores that sell wine, chocolates, souvenirs, cards, and books.

The Regensburg Arcadan Mall

*Friedenstrasse 23, 93053 Regensburg;
Monday-Saturday 9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.*

Take the A3 to 93 headed to into town. Take the second exit, Regensburg Konigswiesen. Go left at the light, go 300 yards, turn right. Go about four kilometers and you're there. Or, take the train to the Regensburg train station. Go up the stairs and you're there.

The first thing you will notice is the inverted keel ceiling. It's impressive and really provides the mall feeling.

Arcadan has a Kaufland grocery store that features an especially large Getrankemarkt, so your favorite beverage is sure to be on hand in vast quantities.

A Worhl department store is ready to provide a benchmark for what is stylish and cutting edge. There is also an H&M department store.

"My daughter shops at Worhl because there is a great variety of clothes she seems to like," said Lori Starnes, mother of two teenage kids. "It's convenient to get there since the train takes you to the front door."

For sports fan, there is a large store called Sport Sperk. If you've missed having sporting goods as far as you can see, this will relieve your tension.

MediMax Electronics mega store has an excellent selection of all kinds of electronics and often has some big markdowns on multi function big screen televisions.

If you get hungry, there are 11 places to grab a bite to eat including a Subway and a McDonalds.

If it's jewelry you're looking for, the hip Bijou Brigitte, "the only place to get jewelry" says Starnes, offers some of the most stylish.

In addition, there are three bookstores, at least three phone stores, two travel and tour locations, four special gift stores including a Butlers and a This and That, a bakery, a meat store, 17 clothing stores including the chic accessory store Pimkie, and the career woman's store, More & More.

Regardless of which mall you go to, a good number of the stores will honor a VAT form, so take several with you and ask the manager before making a final decision.

A large percentage of the store personnel speak some English, and they are anxious to help you with a little survival German for you too, so don't let that stop you.



At the Donau Mall, there are several special pieces of art like this metalwork waterfall located next to a tall glass encased clock.



The unique inverted keel ceiling adds a special atmosphere to the Regensburg Arcadan Mall. This mall is easy to get to, as it is located right next to the train station.

For those missing American sports stores, this mall should be on the top of your list to visit. Sport Sperk is a large sporting goods store located within this mall.

MWR issues Top 10 challenge to community members

by **RONALD H. TOLAND JR.**
Bavarian News

U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach Morale, Welfare and Recreation is issuing a challenge to all community members—have fun!

MWR wants people get out and experience all the community has to offer, so each month it issues its Top 10 Challenge, designed by Tory Lamb, marketing director.

“The MWR Top 10 Challenge is a short list of what people can complete in the area—things to do that could be fun, where they can meet new people, take advantage of their surroundings, learn something new, see something new, or maybe pick up a new hobby,” Lamb said.

“And 80 to 90 percent of the activities are free and we make sure to have something for everyone on the list,” she said.

Lamb said the goals of the program can also be broken into a Top 10 list:

1. Monthly list of “must-do” activities in the USAG Ansbach.
2. A great way to make the most of your tour in Europe.
3. Become more independent.
4. Do something fun.
5. Meet new and exciting people that you didn’t know lived here.
6. Explore your surroundings and the Bavarian culture.
7. A great way to get out of your house.
8. A distraction from the deployment.

9. Discover something new.
10. Learn more about MWR programs.

“We’ve actually renamed it. It used to be just the Top Ten but now it’s the Top 10 Challenge since we incorporated the competition aspect to it,” Lamb said, adding that the top prize is plane tickets to the U.S.

Lamb said people can take up the challenge by e-mailing her and getting on her mailing list to receive the Top Ten Challenge card each month. People can also pick up the cards at Outdoor Recreation, the Yellow Ribbon rooms, bowling centers, Army Community Service, fitness centers, Arts and Crafts, Central Enrollment registration, and Child Development Centers on both Katterbach and Storck Barracks.

Participant’s lists are validated by host facilities when people participate in events listed on the front of the list.

“People who participate in five of 10 events on the list can get their name entered in our monthly drawing,” Lamb said. “People’s validated lists must be received by close of business on the fifth day of the following month at either Yellow Ribbon Room. Drop boxes are located on both installations.”

Every month MWR will draw names for prizes, but at the end of the deployment, all of the people that participated in the challenge will be entered into a big pot,” Lamb said, “and from that pot we’ll draw the grand prize for tickets to the U.S. So, if you completed the challenge for seven months, you have seven chances to win versus someone that only did it for one month.”

To get on the mailing list, fill out one of the orange cards located at most MWR facilities or send an e-mail to: ans-mwr@eur.army.mil.

“Hopefully people will realize the exciting things this community has to offer, get involved, have fun, and win something nice,” Lamb said.

For more on the Top Ten Challenge, email ans-mwr@eur.army.mil or call Lamb at DSN 468-7340 or CIV 0981-183-340.

November’s Top 10 Challenge

- Tomorrow
Conversational German
Noon to 1 p.m.
ACS, Katterbach
- Saturday
Free Paintball
10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sign up in advance at outdoor recreation.
Soldier’s Lake, Ansbach
- Tuesday
Children’s Crafts
3-4 p.m.
Yellow Ribbon Room, Storck Barracks
- Nov. 8
Trip to Stuttgart Post Exchange
Departs Storck Barracks Theater at 8 a.m.
Departs Katterbach Theater at 9 a.m.
Sign up in advance.
Outdoor recreation, Katterbach

- Nov. 10
Black Forest shopping trip
Departs at 6 a.m.
Cost: \$60
Outdoor recreation, Katterbach
- Nov. 15
Ansbach Walking Tour
Departs at 9:30 a.m.
Free
ACS, Katterbach
- Nov. 17
Free child and youth services Parent’s Day Out
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sign up in advance at CER
School age services and CDC Katterbach
- Nov. 19 and 28
Budget Development
9-11 a.m.
Nov. 19 at ACS Katterbach
Nov. 28 at ACS Storck Barracks
- Nov. 21 and 29
Free Bowling
Nov. 21 5-9:30 p.m. at Storck Barracks
Nov. 29 3-10 p.m. at Katterbach
- Nov. 24
5k Turkey Trot Fun Run/Walk
Registration at 9 a.m., run/walk at 10 a.m.
Free
Soldiers Lake

Garrison tests force protection, emergency response

by **JIM HUGHES**
Bavarian News

U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach put itself and the local community’s emergency responders to the test during a force protection and incident response exercise Oct. 15-17.

The exercise scenario, which culminated Oct. 17 with an accident involving a bus full of injured children, required action by nearly all garrison and tactical units, and heavy participation by host nation emergency responders.

Required annually by U.S. Army, Europe, the garrison exercise proved more expansive than those previously held by the garrison, said Mitchell Jones, director of plans, training, mobilization and security.

“What I enjoyed about this one was the amount of participation by host nation officials. I’d never seen it at that scale before,” said Jones, who has worked force protection and operations for the past 11 years split between the U.S., Grafenwoehr, Vilseck, Hohenfels and Ansbach.

“It was magnificent,” he said. “They came to our planning stages about two months ago, and then about two weeks ago to our tabletop where I saw the heads of the Polizei, the heads of the fire department, and heads of other emergency organizations; it was unbelievable. I’ve never seen that level of support before.”

Host nation support combined with leadership commitment to a realistic training event equaled great success, Jones said.

“In my humble opinion, we exceeded USAREUR’s expectations,” he said. “They had trouble finding what our weaknesses are—and usually they have a laundry list of things. That says a lot about the commander as well. (Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Tammy S. McKenna) gave us the flexibility to plan and execute a full-scale exercise.

“Commanders have to be willing to take risks when they do these types of things—everything from safety issues to chaos in the community: schools delayed, people not getting on

“We really trained the way we fight. We have to do this to ensure we can protect the force - family members, Soldiers, civilians - and make sure they keep their current quality of life and so they can feel confident they will be protected.”

Mitchell Jones
Director, DPTMS



Garrison firefighters move a simulated victim to safety at a portion of the accident scene during the exercise. Garrison fire and emergency services set up the scene with the help of Boy and Girl Scouts and community spouses playing the roles of victims.



Photos by Ronald H. Toland Jr.

A portion of the accident scene at the exercise held Oct. 15-17 on Katterbach Kaserne. Garrison fire and emergency services set up the scene with Boy and Girl Scouts along with spouses playing the roles of victims—all described by U.S. and German emergency responders as very realistic, even causing “goose bumps” in some.

post, household goods deliveries delayed,” Jones said. “She wanted to test our response and see our mechanisms from a real-live mission as opposed to pre-planned and pre-staged. It made it very realistic.”

And it all paid off, said Stefan Groetschel, garrison fire chief.

“It benefits both sides—garrison and host nation,” Groetschel said. “We learn about each others’ operations much better, we will know the leaders of each organization, and we can focus on quick and efficient emergency response during real emergencies because we understand each other so much better.

“It is especially important for the host nation side to train with the military since there is quite some difference compared to a response on the local economy—military structure, foreign language and the presence of different hazards,” he said.

Groetschel added that the realism of the scene—created and set up by garrison fire and emergency services—took some people aback.

“We tried to be as realistic as possible; it worked out very well,” he said. “If trainees don’t even realize during the exercise any more that it is a drill and not real, then the setup is perfect. I talked to several attendees from host nation as well as U.S. rescue organizations who stated that they had goose bumps when they saw the scenario.

“For us it was quite some work,” he added. “Each dummy had a card explaining the injuries of the person as well as the role players who were moulaged to show realistic injuries. We welded the doors of the cars to the vehicle frame, so rescue workers had to use the Jaws of Life and not just open the door. We damaged the vehicles with the backhoe of our Unimog to have vehicles look like they were badly damaged during a crash.

“The benefit for our people was that they could respond to a scenario that was comparable to a real life situation. They were under physical and mental stress, just like during a real call.”

Groetschel’s counterparts in the city of Ansbach agreed, including Rainer Stache, the city’s legal director.

“It gave us a great opportunity to train with our U.S. Army friends in responding to an emergency on one of the installations,” Stache said. “The realistic nature of the scene of the simulated accident along with our working side-by-side with our garrison counterparts provided local

emergency responders a training opportunity that will prove invaluable if and when a real-world situation happens in this area and lives are on the line.

“Both sides learned a lot working together—things we did well and areas we need to improve in,” he said. “In the end, it is the people of Ansbach and the U.S. Army installations that will benefit the most by having fully trained emergency responders that are better able to work together to save lives.”

Jones said that while some people may have been inconvenienced by the exercise, the payoff was worth it.

“We really trained the way we fight,” he said. “We have to do this to ensure we can protect the force—family members, Soldiers, civilians—and make sure they keep their current quality of life and so they can feel confident they will be protected.

“Our goal was not to hinder people, but to have them go home assured that if something really happened, we can take care of it. It should help people sleep better.”

“It is especially important for the host nation side to train with the military since there is quite some difference compared to a response on the local economy.”

Stefan Groetschel
Garrison Fire Chief

12th CAB honors Ansbach Eagle Scout

by **Sgt. BRANDON LITTLE**
12th CAB Public Affairs

There are always two U.S. flags inside the cockpit of every AH-64D Apache that takes off or lands here.

A few Soldiers from U.S. Army, Europe's 12th Combat Aviation Brigade recently decided to make room for one more.

In addition to the flag on each of the two Apache pilots' uniforms, a flag would also be flown to salute a new Eagle Scout from their home station in Katterbach—17-year-old John Willis-Morris.

"I used to be a Boy Scout myself," said pilot Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kevin Oaks of the brigade's 2nd Battalion, 159th Aviation, who helped fly the flag in honor of Willis-Morris's achievement. "I know how difficult it is to become an Eagle Scout. You really have to work for it and only a small percent of Scouts make it."

Most Boy Scouts join the organization when they are about 11 years old, and it can take them five to seven years to become an Eagle—if they make it, said Sgt. 1st Class David Sweitzer, a former Scoutmaster and one of the organizers of the flag mission.

Willis-Morris began even younger. He says he started as a Tiger Cub in Okinawa, Japan, and has been a "Scouter" ever since. He spent a year with a Boy Scout Troop in Tennessee, then moved to Germany where he joined troops in Bad Nauheim and finally Katterbach.

Earning the Eagle rank requires years of working through the Scout ranks, culminated by

a comprehensive community service project each Eagle candidate must plan, supervise and complete.

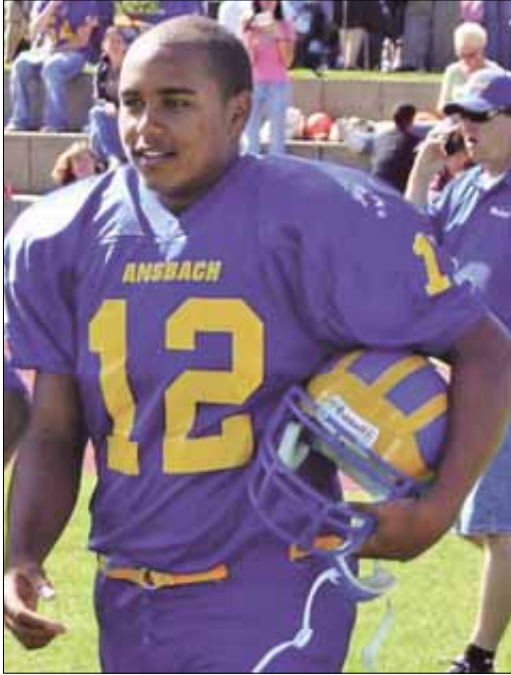
For his project, Willis-Morris built picnic tables for the Katterbach chapel with the help of friends and fellow Scouts. He particularly credited Rene Payne, the community's Club Beyond youth group director, for mentoring him during the project and teaching him how to supervise its completion.

Sweitzer, a brigade aviation maintenance officer in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Task Force XII, also has a son who is a member of Troop 97. He said the request for the flag to be flown originally came from Willis-Morris' mother.

"I don't really remember where the idea came from to fly a flag to present to John. I know I mentioned it earlier, and I guess they (the 12th CAB pilots) just took the ball and ran," says Willis-Morris' mother, Doris Willis. Willis is a Department of Defense Dependent Schools teacher in the second grade at Katterbach Elementary who has taught in Germany and Okinawa during her 21-year DoDDS career.

"Of course, as a mom, I had visions of (John) achieving his Eagle Scout rank since he started Tiger Cubs! I just couldn't be prouder," she said. "Scouting has taught him a great deal, and I expect him to live by the laws of Scouting. I pray that he takes the values of Scouting with him throughout his life and remembers to give all that he has experienced and learned back to others."

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Keith Langewisch decided to place the flag in his pilot



Courtesy photo

Ansbach Eagle Scout and champion quarterback, John Willis-Morris.



Photo by Sgt. Brandon Little

Spc. Robert Shaver, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Francis, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Keith Langewisch, Spc. Ryan Drouin and Sgt. 1st Class David Sweitzer, Soldiers from Task Force XII, led by Ansbach's 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, pose for a picture on Logistics Support Area Anaconda, Iraq, with an American flag that was flown on missions in Iraq in one of the task force's AH-64D Apache attack helicopters. The flag will be sent to the 12th's home base at Katterbach, Germany, for John Willis-Morris, a 17-year-old Boy Scout who recently earned his Eagle Scout rank.

compartment during an Oct. 15 flight.

"This is the first flag Task Force XII has flown for a Scout," Langewisch said. "It's always nice to do things for those guys."

Willis-Morris's flag will accompany Langewisch and Oaks as they fly combat service support missions for coalition troops on the ground in Iraq.

"It is a great morale boost to everyone involved—the Soldiers downrange, Scouting and the families left behind," Willis-Morris said. "This allows the Soldiers to feel that they are truly a part of something so far away."

"I know this will mean a lot to him," Oaks

said. "So I'm more than happy to do it."

"I think it was supposed to be a surprise! But I am very grateful for their thinking of me and also for their dedication to Scouting," Willis-Morris said. "The United States Army can also be very proud of them, as I am. I understand the commitment that they have made, since my father is a retired sergeant major in the Marine Corps."

"The flag will always represent to me their dedication to their jobs, their love for the United States, and their commitment to defend our freedom. I feel very special. The flag will always have a place of honor wherever I am."

VIP Company transports celebs, Coalition Forces' top leaders

Story and photo by
Sgt. BRANDON LITTLE
12th CAB Public Affairs

As the rotor blades slowly begin to spin on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter, its crew conducts last minute checks.

The flight crew, from Company A, 5th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, focuses intently on the mission at hand as the blades begin to pick up speed.

Their mission is to transport a few of the most senior and influential personnel in Iraq.

Transporting passengers ranging from the Commander of Multi National Forces-Iraq to CBS news anchor Katie Couric each day has earned Co. A the nickname VIP Company.

"Because of the threat to wheeled vehicles, we have been tasked with the vital mission of transporting VIPs," said Capt. Brian Stickney, Co. A commander "Flying with us gives leaders the freedom to move around the battle field."

Accomplishing this mission isn't an easy task considering there are only 55 personnel in VIP Company.

"Everyone in our company flies except our supply clerk," said 1st Sgt. Allen Morgan, from Co. A, 5-158th. "In addition to my duties as the company first sergeant, I am also a door gunner."

Co. A handles VIP requests to fly regardless of what time day or night. These requests are usually sent to them a few days in advance.

"We fly when we are needed, so we are on their schedule," said Stickney, also a pilot in VIP Company. "There are usually about 12 missions a week, and that can mean anywhere from 60 to 80 hours of flying each week."

This company has also transported U.S. senators and many Iraqi dignitaries.

"I love to fly and I think our mission here is very important," said Spc. Jimmy Blundell, a



Capt. Brian Stickney, the company commander for A Co. 5th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, gives his crew a safety briefing before they take off on a VIP Mission. Stickney is also a pilot in VIP Company.

Co. A crew chief. "Plus I get the opportunity to meet a lot of important people."

To accommodate some of these important people, these aircraft have been equipped with a few special features.

"We have a special type of communications console with radios and computers that allow commanders to track the battle on the ground," said Stickney.

Although these aircraft may have high-tech communications equipment and influential

passengers on the inside, the outside looks like any other Black Hawk.

"I don't feel like we're a bigger target because we look like any other aircraft and we fly the same areas," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Susan Pensinger, a pilot in VIP Company. "I don't think anyone knows the difference between the people we carry and who everyone else carries."

Each VIP mission transports up to 10 personnel, so it's pretty much the VIPs and



A UH-60 Black Hawk crew from A Co. 5th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, prepares to take on a "VIP Mission." A Co. is responsible for transporting some of the most influential personnel around Iraq.

whoever they invite to fly with them, said Stickney.

Every time the rotor blades of a UH-60 Black Hawk from VIP Company slowly begin to turn, each flight crew member is focused on transporting the most senior and influential personnel in Iraq.

"I wake up every morning thinking this is the best job in the world," Morgan said. "The mission may be a little different, but at the end of the day I know we're doing a great thing."

For more happenings and events in and around Ansbach, check out the electronic newsletters - "On the Scene" and "Cultural Calendar" - available via e-mail. To get on the mailing list, e-mail jim.k.hughes@eur.army.mil or rabia.nombamba@eur.army.mil.



To the limit

173rd ABCT spouses show just how “hooah” they are, as they tackle group physical training drills at the 173rd parade field on Warner Barracks Oct. 12. More than 50 spouses participated in the fun event designed to give them a feel for Army training and promote friendships.

“Hooah Day” puts spouses to the test

Family members experience the rigors of Army life

Story and photos by JAMES FREDRICK
Bavarian News

Slapping on camouflage face paint and donning a wide variety of Army clothing, spouses from the deployed 173rd Airborne Combat Team braved a cold, cloudy fall morning to take part in the Oct. 12 Hooah Day.

Over 50 participants from the 173rd units stationed here at Warner Barracks transformed from Army spouses to Army Soldiers as they made their way through various stations, all intended to give them a realistic, albeit lighthearted, feel for Army training.

Everyone got the chance to take aim on the virtual firing range and try some group physical training exercises. While arranged in formation, they counted off as they did pushups, side-

straddle hops (jumping-jacks), and knee-benders.

At the mock door training facility, 1st Sgt. Damon Tracey Haynie, 173rd ABCT North, Rear Detachment, gave an airborne demonstration that included the basics of using a parachute and what it is like to soar out of a plane. “It gave them an idea of the training their spouses go through prior to an airborne operation with the 173rd,” said Haynie.

Hooah Day participants also tackled a few of the obstacles on the confidence course. On their way through the course they encouraged one another as each spouse scaled a wall and giant’s ladder, crawled through the sand and under barbed wire, and maneuvered on elevated platforms.

Events such as Hooah Day help build

confidence, friendships, and promote teamwork, which are the same qualities the course is designed to instill in Soldiers as well.

“The Hooah Day event drew a lot of spouses that we have not been seeing at most of our regular events,” explained Gina Little, 4-319th AFAR, FRSA.

“When you see people laughing and helping one another that may not have otherwise had the chance to meet, you know the event has made a difference,” she said.

Encouragement and teamwork help the 173rd ABCT family readiness group participants up and over the obstacles on the course.



TSC commander pays visit to 16th Special Troops Battalion

by Sgt. KEITH M. ANDERSON
16th SB Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Scott West, commander, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany, toured the vehicle and weapons facilities of the 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, and spoke with battalion Soldiers and leaders Oct. 11.

The tour was part of a maintenance terrain walk that the general conducts with subordinate units of the 21st TSC, in an effort to focus more attention on equipment maintenance, he said.

“I honestly think we (in the Army) have walked away from maintenance as a core competency,” West said.

The walk began with an 11 a.m. briefing in the 16th SB conference room, where the general outlined his ideas on maintenance to unit leaders and was briefed on the prescribed load list; the overage recoverable item list; test, measurement and diagnostic equipment list; scheduled maintenance of rolling stock, and weapons, and other aspects of maintenance.

After the briefing, West and unit leaders went to the 16th STB motor pool, where he quizzed two mechanics, Pfc. Mark Armstrong and Pfc. Jeremy Ridgley, both of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th STB.

“Every time he comes in here he always challenges us,” Armstrong said. “He knows what he’s talking about and he’s in it for the Soldiers.”

After visiting with Soldiers at the motor pool, and inspecting paperwork and tools with leaders, the general’s next stop was Ray’s Dining Facility.

At the DFAC West spoke with Soldiers about their concerns at Bamberg.

Spc. Lillian Zulu, S-1 clerk, 106th Financial Management Company, 16th STB, mentioned her concerns about the plumbing in the barracks, Bldg. 7048, and the open-bay showers, to the general.

The 16th STB Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Christopher Chun, informed the general, and the group of Soldiers, that the brigade has plans to renovate the barracks and fix the plumbing problems, but that kitchens and bathrooms

would not be added to the rooms.

Zulu said she appreciated hearing about the renovation plans and that the general took the time to hear her concerns, though she wished she could have a kitchen and a bathroom in her room.

Cpl. Claudia Kroll, administrative non-commissioned officer, HHC, 16th STB, discussed her concerns about on-post housing.

“He seemed to listen, and as you heard, he told [16th SB Brigade Commander] Col. Martin Pitts that (leadership) should bring it up in the next housing meeting,” Kroll said.

After the session at the DFAC, and a visit to the battalion motor park and Bravo Company, 16th STB, the general concluded the maintenance terrain walk with a stop at the HHC arms room.

After inspecting several weapons, including the weapons of unit commanders, West presented the armorer with a 21st TSC coin.

“I’m going to lend you this,” West said to Spc. Justin Tolleson, armorer, HHC, 16th STB. “I’m going to come back in 90 days and inspect

it for burrs and debris.”

Tolleson said the general was very thorough, and reinforced an important point.

“I have over 300 weapons,” Tolleson said. “I can’t clean them all. Soldiers must maintain operator standards for their own assigned weapons.”

After the maintenance terrain walk the general reiterated his message to unit leaders.

“Maintenance has always been, in our Army, a core competency,” West said. “We train Soldiers to maintain their equipment, we train our unit leaders to train Soldiers on how to maintain their equipment.”

“We know that equipment maintenance is very important on the battlefield it’s very important in training,” he said.

The walk is very useful, West said.

“The great thing that the maintenance terrain walk does for us is that it’s leader development for gauging how well we’re doing in training leaders as maintenance leaders in organizations,” he said.



The great pumpkin dash!

Photo by Amy L. Bugala

Children of all ages sprint to the pumpkin patch in search of three free pumpkins at the start of the Pumpkin Festival at Warner Barracks Oct. 13. The 4-319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment family readiness groups sponsored the event and sold about 300 pumpkins, as well as food, caramel apples, and more.



General visit

Photo by James Fredrick

U.S. Army Europe Commanding General David McKiernan receives an update on renovation work at the JFK Teen Fitness Center during his visit to Bamberg Oct. 18. McKiernan also toured the new Warrior Transition Unit barracks and met with rear detachment commanders, NCO’s, FRSA’s, and family readiness group leaders.

Bamberg closing in on 2007 CFC goal

USAG Bamberg news release

Helping those in need here in the European theater, in the United States, and elsewhere around the world is an affirmation of the American spirit.

Now through Nov. 30, the Combined Federal Campaign - Overseas offers a valuable way for us to display that spirit by providing a reliable means for us to help others in need.

The Directorate of Human Resources reports that the Bamberg military community is on their way towards “*Making a World of Difference*” and reaching their \$60,000 community campaign

contribution goal for 2007.

“As of today, our community has already raised \$54,000 towards our goal, thanks to the outstanding support from the Bamberg CFC-O unit coordinators,” said Patrick Longfield, the CFC-O community area project officer.

Longfield reminds contributors of the electronic pledge options available this year.

“Contributors can fill out an electronic pledge card via the website or give by using the newest credit card option developed by the CFC-O,” he said.

The user-friendly instructions will

guide contributors through selecting the charity or charities of their choice and entering their personal and contact information to create an electronic pledge card.

If you wish to contribute to our local installation’s Family Support and Youth Program, you may do so by choosing “FSYP” on your pledge card.

One hundred percent of FSYP funds return to the community; no administrative costs are deducted from FSYP contributions. Remember, from providing softballs for youth to funding language classes for spouses or art supplies for the local child

development center, FSYP *Makes a World of Difference* in your community!

If you haven’t been contacted by a CFC-O Unit Coordinator or would like to obtain a pledge form, campaign material, or obtain additional information about the CFC-O, contact the Directorate of Human Resources office at DSN 469-7713 / 8651.

For more information about the CFC-O go to www.CFC-overseas.org.

As of last week, Bamberg had raised \$54,000 of their \$60,000 goal for 2007.



Women urged to take time for self-care, friendships

Studies show that best predicator of long, healthy life is long-term relationships with other women

by ANNE TORPHY
Bavaria MEDDAC PAO

The official color of October is pink, and the official message is “Take Action!”

This message became clear as guest speaker Col. Theresa M. Schneider, the commander of the Bavaria Medical Activity Command, spoke to over 100 guests attending a Breast Cancer Awareness luncheon at the Bamberg Warner Club Oct. 25.

During the event, hosted by the Bamberg Health Promotion Office and the Bamberg Spouses and Civilians Club, Schneider spoke about the role personal friendships take in the overall health and well-being of women.

Schneider noted that often times, for women, their own needs are put last on their long list of things to do.

She cited a recent study that indicated that the best predictor of a long and healthy life for

females is their long-term friendships with other women. Schneider encouraged the guests to take their knowledge of breast cancer to the next level – action.

“One of the many benefits of being in the military is our lifelong friendships with women around the world,” she said.

She encouraged women to call the Health Clinic to make an appointment for their Wellness Exam (which includes a breast exam), and to ensure that their friends and family were also scheduling their necessary health exams.

The eight health clinics in Bavaria, part of BMEDDAC, can assist women in scheduling their Wellness Exam, which is usually recommended for women ages 21 and older; or two years after a woman becomes sexually active.

A mammogram is recommended for women over age 40, or younger if there is a family history of breast cancer. Your doctor can advise a schedule for exams, and patients should ask questions. The health clinic also has pamphlets on how to conduct a breast self-exam.

“One of the many benefits of being in the military is our lifelong friendships with women around the world.”

Col. Theresa M. Schneider
Bavaria MEDDAC Comamnder



Carol Rosenberg, Leslie Smith, Jackie Prince and V. Renae Crutches are motivated to do their part to promote Breast Cancer awareness during a 5K fun run/walk at the Bamberg Freedom Fitness Facility track Oct. 13.



Sarah Bernier (right) a breast cancer survivor, shares the flame from her candle with all the guests at the luncheon symbolizing the role each and every one of us has in raising breast cancer awareness. After all the candles were lit, the group paused for a moment of silence and remembrance.

Red Ribbon Week essays display students’ drug-free commitment

by AMY BUGALA
Bavarian News

The Bamberg community showed their commitment to creating and maintaining a drug free community by participating in a variety of events during this year’s Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 22 -26.

Students from the Bamberg Middle / High School were asked to write essays using this year’s theme, “*Take care of yourself... take care of each othe.r.*” The essays that were selected among the best showed an understanding of the dangers of addiction and a personal commitment to staying drug free.

Bamberg High School students were able to express their Red Ribbon Week commitment by participating in an art/poster contest under the same theme. The top three winners were first place, Caitlin Krauchi (17), second place, Rachel Williamson (13), and third place Ola Wisniewska (14) and were chosen by customers at Community Bank.

The winning writers and artists were recognized during and all school assembly on Oct. 26. The writers received AAFES gifts cards donated by Exchange New Car Sales and the artists were given start up savings accounts courtesy of Bamberg Community Bank in the amounts of \$50, \$30, and \$20 respectively.

help right away.

Knowing someone that had a drug addiction in the past really helped me understand what it is like to have an addiction and how to over come it. Seeing that person back then, and seeing them now, they have changed.

If the person I know didn’t change than my life would not be the same, and neither would theirs.

You can help people avoid drug and alcohol addictions by first telling them that it can cause diseases and physical and mental health problems. Then contact a close relative or a drug and alcohol counselor and tell them about the problem so they can help find proper treatment for the person.

Ways you can prevent becoming addicted to drugs or alcohol are; don’t hang out with people that will convince you to take drugs or consume alcohol. If someone ever offers you these, then just say “No!” If they call you names for saying no, just walk away.

These tips I have written have helped myself and others, from having drug or alcohol abuse problems.

I hope that by following these tips for the rest of my life, I will never have an addiction to drugs or alcohol.



Dominick

First place essay
Jessica Dominick, 13 years old

Taking care of others when they have an addiction is very important, because they could end up going too far and dieing.

If you ever find that one of your friends or family members has an addiction, then get them

Second place essay
Dillon Luedtke, 12 years old

Do you know what drugs and alcohol can do to you? They can do many bad things and can

change your life forever.

Drugs can cause bad health problems like getting AIDS from an infected needle when taking heroin.

Drugs can also make your lungs turn black like from smoking. Some drugs might make your teeth turn really yellow. Alcohol can cause health problems, too. You could possibly have liver problems. You also could get in a car accident and get hurt really bad or even die.

I know drugs can do bad things because a person when I lived in Italy that did drugs. After quite awhile, his teeth turned really yellow and he looked terrible. Eventually, he stopped and he felt so much better. This is an example of what drugs do. So don’t do drugs.

Alcohol has caused bad things to happen in the past and still does. Once a Soldier got so drunk that when he got to the gate to come on post he died from alcohol. Another time someone got really drunk and as a result, he jumped in front of a train and died.



Luedtke

Third place essay
Tyler Smith, 13 years old

Do you know how to help your family when it comes to drugs? Helping your family know how dangerous drugs and alcohol are is vital for a happy and healthy life.

Drugs are very addictive and can lead to homelessness, chronic hospitalization and death. Alcohol can have the same affect, but can also

cause more dangerous things like cancer of the liver and other painful diseases. Telling your parents how drugs and alcohol can do these things, should make them proud.

Helping your friends is as important as helping your family. Making sure your friends do not use drugs is important for their future.

If your friends drink, try telling them how dangerous it is. If they don’t stop tell an adult and stop it for good. If your friends do drugs, immediately tell an adult.

The more drug and alcohol free you and your friends are, shows how healthy your relationship really is. Taking care of yourself is also very important. Doing drugs can shut down your immune system and you can get sick a lot easier.

Drinking alcohol can kill lots and lots of brain cells which can lower your ability to think very quickly. Staying away from drugs is hard nowadays because so many people do them. Make sure you stay away from drugs and alcohol so that you can stay healthy.

Making sure your friends and family know about drugs and alcohol is very important because if they don’t know how dangerous they are, they can die.

Knowing how to take care of yourself is also very important because you need to know the dangers of drugs and alcohol. 8,000 people try drugs for the first time each day.

Children who drink alcohol before the age of 15 are 15 times more likely to be alcoholics when they grow up. So, if you could, please refrain from killing yourself.



Smith

91st CAV Soldier dies from combat wounds, remembered by unit for ‘perpetual optimism’

by **KIMBERLY GEARHART**
Bavarian News

Peyton Pfeifer’s father was an “amazing person, and an amazing Soldier,” as Sgt. Brandon Hebert would gladly tell her. She’ll never find out for herself, as her father, Pfc. Christopher F. Pfeifer, succumbed Sept. 25 to wounds suffered Aug. 17 when his unit, the 3rd Platoon, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, came under fire near Kamu, Afghanistan. Peyton was born two days later.

In a memorial ceremony held in the Ledward Chapel Oct. 16, members of the Schweinfurt community came together to honor Pfeifer’s service as a Sky Soldier, and his sacrifice as a man.

Pfeifer, who joined the Army one month after his wedding, was known to show off pictures of his pregnant wife, Karen, and tell anyone that would listen about the impending birth of his first child.

The Afghan children in his area came to know Pfeifer for his joyful disposition.

“He would have made a good father,” Hebert said, in remarks read by Staff Sgt. Mark Linden. Squadron Commander Lt. Col. Christopher Kolenda, whose remarks were relayed by Rear

Detachment Commander Capt. John Opladen, remembered Pfeifer for his “remarkable toughness” and “perpetual optimism.”

Pfeifer carried the Squad Automatic Weapon, or SAW, and even when fatigued, refused to trade off for a lighter load. “He’d say ‘I’m alright sergeant. We’re almost there,’” recalled Hebert.

Capt. Joey Hutto, who took command of Pfeifer’s troop two months ago, noted that Pfeifer was always the first to volunteer, even for difficult tasks.

“Not only volunteer, but complete it with superb results” and an ever-present smile, Hutto said in comments presented by Staff Sgt. Joseph Ganger. “There are few good men, and fewer great ones. (Pfeifer was) a great one.”

Pfeifer’s unwillingness to burden others extended even beyond his death; he planned the details of his own funeral so that his family would not have to do so.

“That’s just the kind of man he was,” remarked Chaplain Stevan Horning. “He put himself in a place of danger so that others would not have to live in fear.”

Pfeifer is survived by his wife Karen and daughter Peyton, parents Michael and Darlina Pfeifer, brother Sgt. 1st Class Aaron Pfeifer, and sister Nikki Griffith.



Photo by Bernard Ahlers
Spc. Matthew Buehler stands at the head of the firing detail after sounding ‘Taps’ to honor Spc. Christopher F. Pfeifer Oct. 16 on Ledward Barracks.

Former WWII enemies gather again ... in friendship

Story and photo by
MARK HEETER
Bavarian News

When asked how high he was flying that day, Charles Hebert has a simple answer.

“We weren’t high enough. They just kept hitting us,” Hebert said.

“That day” was October 14, 1943, and “they” were the German anti-aircraft defenders – many of them schoolboys – who battled in Schweinfurt on what has come to be known as Black Thursday.

Six members of the 8th U.S. Air Force who flew bombing missions over Schweinfurt on Black Thursday returned to Schweinfurt for the fourth time in nine years for a reunion with the very men who tried to shoot them out of the sky.

“Who would have thought that, more than 60 years later, the thing that they hated the most would be their best friends,” said George Bruckert, who traveled with the group this year and is writing about them.

Sixty American planes carrying 600 crewmembers were lost Oct. 14,

compounding further devastating airplane and crew losses throughout Germany throughout “Black Week,” as it is called. Planes were failing to return at a rate of 71 percent, according to Bruckert.

The American crews dreaded the “flak helpers,” as the air defenders were called, more than anything else, said Bruckert, who has asked the veterans what they feared the most about battling over Germany.

“They couldn’t shoot at them. And they just didn’t know where the next one was coming from,” he said.

The Second Schweinfurt Memorial Association met in Schweinfurt in 2004, 2001, and 1998, at which time they co-dedicated a memorial in a wartime bunker.

As in the past, the group held a memorial service at the bunker Sunday, in addition to a reception at the city hall Saturday, a traditional Schweinfurter Schlachtschussel Monday, and a wreath-laying ceremony at the Dagger memorial on Conn Barracks Oct. 16.

“You represent the future and remind us of the past,” said Lt. Col. Tony Haager, USAG Schweinfurt



Veterans who once battled over the skies of Schweinfurt, now friends, danced the night away with their families and friends Oct. 16.

commander, as he addressed the veterans and their families at a luncheon here Oct. 16. “And we appreciate that.”

“You guys are showing that the American Air Force and the Deutsche Flakhelfer come together in friendship,” said Haager.

This friendship has really helped my job,” he said. “Because I consider us part of the Schweinfurt community.”

New events, president bring life to Schweinfurt B.O.S.S. program

by **KIMBERLY GEARHART**
Bavarian News

There’s a new B.O.S.S. in town, and its got a new president as well.

Sgt. James Smogonovich (but you can call him Sgt. Smog) is a newcomer to Schweinfurt, a member of 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery, and he’s also your new Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (B.O.S.S.) president.

“B.O.S.S. is a program for single Soldiers by the single Soldiers. They come up with things they would like to do, and MWR helps them carry those things out,” said Silvia Joiner, MWR recreation specialist who has been assisting with the B.O.S.S. program since 1989.

Soldiers, however, don’t really know what B.O.S.S. is all about, or at least, that’s what Smogonovich has seen.

“I’d mention B.O.S.S. in the dining facility or the gym, and Soldiers would just look confused. I want to change that. I want to get that knowledge out there and get them involved,” he said.

The local B.O.S.S. program has recently begun a program of wider community involvement with joint MWR programs and reintegration initiatives. Smogonovich wants to continue that trend and expand it.

“This is a program designed to improve the quality of life for the single Soldiers, to provide

a fun and viable alternative to excessive drinking. Getting them actively engaged in something positive is one of our goals.”

One of Smogonovich’s personal aims for the program is to get the single Soldiers to be more active in the military and local civilian communities. School programs and partnership initiatives like community clean-ups are just a couple of the ways that the B.O.S.S. program can contribute to the community as a whole.

“We, as single Soldiers, have put out a bad image over the years, especially on the economy. I want to take that away. I want them to know that we’re here to help and defend them, too,” Smogonovich said.

B.O.S.S. programs, such as the “This One’s for You” reintegration project, often reach out to the whole community, rather than just single Soldiers, although those Soldiers are the priority.

“We’re not a private organization. You don’t have to be a part of a ‘club’ to participate. We’d like to incorporate the entire community,” Smogonovich said.

Joiner noted that many B.O.S.S. trips are open to adult couples on a space-available basis.

“Although the single Soldier has to come first, we welcome anyone interested in a fun, adult opportunity to explore,” she said.

The next B.O.S.S. reintegration event, which is open to all Soldiers, will be held Nov. 15 beginning at 3 p.m. in the Finney Fitness Center.

WTU taking care of local Soldiers

by **MARK HEETER**
Bavarian News

Warrior Transition Unit means something special to about three dozen Schweinfurt Soldiers who have been assigned to the unit since it was created early last month.

“It’s a sense of pride to be in this unit. To be able to take care of those Soldiers that went and fought for our country and have been injured and fought for our freedom,” said Sgt. 1st Class Salvatore Hrycych, Schweinfurt WTU platoon sergeant.

While most of the Soldiers assigned to the WTU have been wounded in combat, eligibility is spread to include Soldiers who are under the evaluation of a medical board, who spend a significant amount of time at appointments, and who have to have at least six months of complex care, according to Hrycych and local WTU squad leader, Staff Sgt. Joshua Kennedy.

“It’s for different injuries, different illnesses,” said Hrycych. One thing remains the same for all the assigned Soldiers, though, according to Kennedy.

“A lot of Soldiers don’t want to feel different. They don’t want that, ‘Oh, let me get the door for you just because you got a cane.’ They want to feel just like me, like you. When I deal with my Soldiers, they’re a man,” he said.

The primary function of the WTU is to ensure that Soldiers are making and completing their appointments, and to ensure that they have the means to get there, Kennedy said.

“We can facilitate that for them like, for

example, if a Soldier needs to stay overnight in Landstuhl, we get a hold of the Fisher House for them or we make sure they know how to get hold of them. We take care of the families there, too, to make sure the support is there,” he said.

Although Soldiers’ commanders have the final say on determining who they release to become part of the WTU, doctors and other medical professionals can offer their recommendations based on each case, Kennedy said.

“If a commander feels the unit can take care of him, then by all means, they can do that,” he said, noting that the units then maintain the responsibility of getting the Soldier through the necessary appointments.

Hrycych and Kennedy encourage their Soldiers to remain active and are looking for the community to reach out to their Soldiers with the opportunity to contribute in any of a number of ways.

“I’d encourage the community to come forward with meaningful jobs for these Soldiers,” Kennedy said.

“Get involved with these Soldiers. Come talk to them. See if there’s anything you can do to help them. A lot of the Soldiers are looking for things to do. They don’t want to be just sitting there. They’re looking. ‘How can we help? What can we do?’” Hrycych said.

For more information about the WTU or to inquire about helping with the unit, stop by the Schweinfurt Health Clinic, where Hrycych and Kennedy have their basement office.

Schweinfurt

Army names Auto Skills Center best of its kind

Story and photo by MARK HEETER
Bavarian News

The U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt Auto Skills Center was named the best of its kind for medium-sized garrisons at the National Recreation & Parks Association conference in Indianapolis Sept. 24. The Army recreation awards program is part of the NRPA awards.

“The awards recognize garrisons and individuals that develop and deliver customer-focused programs that address the needs and the interests of the Army,” according to a release by the Installation Management Command announcing the awards.

The five-person team at the skills center comprises specialists whose efforts blend

together for the winning combination, said Tom Woditsch, the facility manager.

“I cross-train the employees so they can do everything,” Woditsch said of his basic management philosophy.

“Everybody helps each other out,” he said, to include the customers.

“I think it’s our customers,” said Tim Gittelsohn, assistant manager, when asked what makes the Schweinfurt center the best in the Army. “We’re only here because of them.”

Another significant improvement to the auto skills center was its merger with the strip lot, according to Woditsch. And a new recycling program has significantly increased the profit, he added.

“Every inspection we’ve had, we’ve passed

with flying colors,” Woditsch said.

The business recreation division and garrison have been extremely accommodating when Woditsch has made requests in his effort to improve the center, he said.

“We’ve got the best backing. This is the first place I’ve ever been where I’ve gotten everything I’ve asked for,” he said, referring to the overhauled equipment and facility.

And the customers keep coming back.

“This is the best customer-based shop there’s ever been,” said Sgt. 1st Class Robert Gaskins, after being greeted by the crew on a visit to the center Oct. 9.

Jose Vazquez mixes water with antifreeze in his car at the center.



British convoys lead to partnership ties

by KIMBERLY GEARHART
Bavarian News

If you’ve left Conn Barracks by way of Geldersheim gate this month, you’ve probably noticed a bevy of green tents camped out on Conn Airfield.

If you look a bit closer, you’ll notice that the Soldiers manning those tents are not decked out in standard-issue Army gear, or even Air Force attire—the Soldiers camped out on Conn are members of the British Royal Logistical Corps.

In an effort to support our NATO partners, the U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt has offered a temporary home to British troops as part of a refueling station supporting several convoys traveling from northern Germany to the Hohenfels area in preparation for an upcoming British deployment to Iraq.

“In Schweinfurt, we have what we call a CSC—Convoy Staging Center. When the convoys come in we refuel them, feed them, and give them a place to sleep for 8 hours, then they shoot off again,” said Capt. Christopher Scott, the officer in charge of the CSC operation.

Scott and non-commissioned officer in charge Cpl. Jimmy Caswell head up a group that

averages approximately 40 Soldiers working in Schweinfurt to support the moving troops and equipment involved in the convoy operation. The garrison has supplied barracks space for the stationary Soldiers.

“But we’re in a tent,” Caswell said, laughing and pointing to himself and Scott. Due to space constraints, some of the stationary Soldiers had to be housed in tents, and this time, the senior guys are roughing it.

But even “roughing it,” the British are well-taken care of, thanks to Sgt. 1st Class David Reveal, who is the garrison’s dedicated liaison to the visiting military force.

“My job is to make sure they have everything they could possibly need” to make their operation run smoothly and their downtime relaxing. Whether it’s a forklift for equipment movement, extra fuel, or a television set-up for the tents, Reveal makes it happen.

Caswell, who has run several similar missions during his service, often works with the Bundeswehr, but this was his first opportunity to work on an American base.

“I’ve never before had the privilege. On German posts, we do our thing and just try not to cause friction. There wouldn’t be a dedicated liaison officer, either,” he explained.

“And we’ve been invited to have some fun

and see how you guys train as well,” Scott added.

The garrison Headquarters and Headquarters Company, to which Reveal belongs, has weapons qualification ranges on the horizon, and invited the British to join them in simulated weapons qualification and training on Conn Barracks.

“It’s a great joint partnership experience. We get to show them how we train, and learn a little from them, and just have a great time in general,” Reveal said. In addition to the simulated battlefield training, Reveal arranged a day of paintball fun, followed by a BBQ hosted by Scott’s unit.

The CSC ended its run last week, and Scott and his crew vacated Conn Barracks. Reveal, however, hopes to lure them back for subsequent training events.

“They definitely know their jobs, and their leadership is all about taking care of Soldiers. It’s been an honor for me to get to work with such a class act,” he said, adding that he hopes this CSC exercise is just the beginning of a long friendship.

For their part, Scott and Caswell second that idea.

“Sgt 1st Class Reveal has been brilliant. The hospitality of the Americans, it’s been excellent,” Scott said.

Community participating in annual Red Ribbon Week

by SANDRA WILSON
Bavarian News

Red ribbons will join the shower of yellow ribbons already adorning Schweinfurt military installations this week.

Red Ribbon Week kicked off Oct. 21 as part of the nationwide effort to increase awareness of the dangers of drug abuse.

This will be the twelfth year of the campaign against drugs which began with the death of a Drug Enforcement Administration agent, Enrique Camarena. Camarena, working to expose a multi-billion dollar drug cartel, was murdered by drug traffickers in 1985.

In addition to awareness, Red Ribbon Week endeavors to teach people how to recognize and combat addiction in their own lives or the lives of loved ones.

“A surefire sign of addiction is when the trouble they get in becomes more and more severe. Common sense and reason is the very thing affected by the drugs,” said Kenneth McMillan, substance abuse programs prevention coordinator here in Schweinfurt.

Adults and children alike need to feel that they belong and that they are cared about, said McMillan. If those needs aren’t met, they may seek drug and alcohol alternatives to fill the lonely void.

“The heavy stuff often goes on behind closed doors, and they’re usually alone,” said McMillan. People addicted to drugs may initially reject an offer of help, but the expressed concern may trigger them to reevaluate their “relationship” with the drugs, he said.

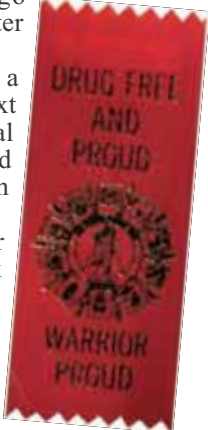
There’s another type of drug with which abuse may go unnoticed: over-the-counter drugs.

McMillan recounted a time when a passenger next to him on an international airplane flight downed several doses of Nyquil then a glass of hard liquor.

“See you on the other side,” he said. I don’t think people really think about it,” said McMillan about the misuse of legal drugs.

People have no idea what kind of reaction their bodies may have to overdosing or combining drugs, he said. Using medications in a manner other than directed on the bottle is considered abuse.

“Red Ribbon Week is an awareness campaign... a reminder that... people have died in the fight against illegal drug use. Children are growing up in areas where it’s almost a rite of passage. If we don’t want our kids to grow up doing these kinds of things, we need to become more involved,” said McMillan.



Infant CPR classes offered

(From left) Morgan Coats, a 299th FSB family member, and Spc. Alyssa Rodriguez and Spc. Jennifer Labarre, both of the 299th FSB, practice giving mouth-to-mouth at a Red Cross infant CPR class Oct. 13 in Schweinfurt. The class was offered to parents of new babies, those expecting babies, or baby-sitters. As part of the Dagger Brigade Hooah Baby program, parents of babies born during the deployment received gift certificates to take the class for only \$5 (regular price is \$40). Call DSN 354-1760 for information.

Photo by Wendy Sledd



SFAC supporting local WTU, Soldiers, families

by MARK HEETER
Bavarian News

A lounge-type setting with telephones, computers, access to a kitchen, plenty of information, and staff at the ready to help is the place to be for Soldiers assigned to the Warrior Transition Unit and their Families.

Welcome to the Schweinfurt Soldier Family Assistance Center, co-located with Army Community Service in Bldg. 242 on Ledward Barracks.

“That’s truly what this environment is set up to do. In between appointments, depending on limitations, this is here to support the healing Soldier in whatever capacity,” said Hal Snyder, USAG Schweinfurt ACS officer.

“SFAC is going to play a very vital role, I believe, in the success of (the WTU). ACS are my go-to guys. If I can’t solve a problem, I know anybody can go to ACS, and they’ll help,” said Staff Sgt. Joshua Kennedy, squad leader for the Schweinfurt WTU.

The SFAC and WTU were established early

last month throughout the Army as tools to help Soldiers transition either into another unit, through their rehabilitation or out of the Army. While the WTU is under the operational control of the medical activity, the SFAC is under the day-to-day care of ACS.

When Soldiers or Family members come to the SFAC, they will likely be greeted and assisted by DonElla Thomas, a familiar face to the community. She recently separated from active duty with the Dagger Brigade and now is the acting SFAC specialist.

“It keeps them from running back and forth between Ledward and Conn,” Thomas said, noting that some Soldiers’ appointments have to happen in a precise order.

Thomas’ experience as a personnel specialist came in handy immediately upon her assumption of the position, as she helped a Soldier with an incorrect Date Eligible for Return from Overseas, or DEROS.

“I was able to call over and get his DEROS adjusted, so now he will be able to go coordinate for his follow-on assignment,” she said.

“It’s just getting them to the right organization so they can fix it and just get them in the right direction,” Thomas said.

In addition to all the amenities in the SFAC, plans are in the works for a second SFAC lounge to be set up in the Personnel Transition Assistance Center in Bldg. 40 on Conn Barracks, according to John McIntyre, U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt director of Human Resources.

Installation Management Command-Europe has already conducted a site assistance visit and liked what they saw.

“Their feedback was that they were very pleased with our operation,” McIntyre said.

Although the SFAC is designed as a priority service center for WTU Soldiers, Snyder emphasized that ACS continues to offer the same services and programs to the entire community that have been the hallmark of ACS.

“I think the biggest challenge is not losing sight of the fact that we continue to support all of our Soldiers and Families with similar services. The SFAC is designed as a location to prioritize service for the WTU Soldiers,” he said.

A Perfect Season

Song remains the same—Ansbach Cougars chasing title

Story and photos by JIM HUGHES
Bavarian News

The teams may be better, the opponents bigger and the schedule tougher, but the song remains the same for Ansbach Cougars football players—they're chasing another title despite moving up into Department of Defense Dependent Schools' Division II.

In August, after learning of the move out of Div III—where they had won four titles in five years—into Div. II, many at Ansbach were concerned about how the team would do against schools that oftentimes boasted twice as many total students.

But the concern was unfounded. Led by a strong and cohesive senior class, Cougar players didn't just compete, they destroyed all comers and find themselves one win away from a fifth championship in six years. "We've had a nucleus of kids who have stayed together the past three or four years," said Head Coach Marcus George, referring to John Willis-Morris, Xavier Sheppard and Thomas Graham. "And we've had others move in, like Jacob Burnside, Storm Freeman, Rancel Arrocha, Jiamine Kimbell, Ryan Snow, Brian Moderie, Justin Harris and others. We've slowly built a strong senior class."

While admitting to some initial concerns about the move to Div. II, senior quarterback Willis-Morris said it actually made the team better.

"We were concerned and a little nervous at first, but we got the hang of it and we did great," he said. "There are definitely better teams and better players, but it's made us better because we have to prepare more and play harder."

That strong senior class ensured

a happy homecoming Oct. 13 by destroying Mannheim 60-3, and then made a trip to defending Div. II champion Bitburg Oct. 20 and crushed the Barons 38-8—putting up 24 points in the first quarter and only allowing a touchdown with their second-string defense late in the game.

"They were missing their best running back to an ankle problem, and we lost a couple of kids during the course of the game," George said. "They're a much bigger team—their 260-to-280-pound kids take hits a lot better than out 170-to-180-pound kids."

"We probably have better overall team speed so we try to finesse people to make the most of it," he added. "Bitburg plays a Neanderthal-style of football believing that if you smack people in the nose enough they'll back up or quit—that's what they're counting on. They couldn't do that to us."

The Cougars finessed their way to a perfect regular season—the only undefeated team in DODDS football—and a playoff win versus Wiesbaden to put themselves back in a championship game for the sixth straight year and a chance for a fifth title.

This is a special group of Cougars, George said.

"The teams that stick out in my mind are the ones who have hurdles and they hurdle them," George said. "It's easy to be a front runner, the big dog, and slap the little kids around. But when you're called out and you're able to step up and take care of business. That is kind of an exciting, pleasing, satisfying thing. I think you find out a lot about yourself and it's kind of nice to be successful, too."

He said another aspect to the Cougars success is its conditioning



Senior team captains Xavier Sheppard, Jacob Burnside and John Willis-Morris, and the rest of the team's seniors helped the Cougars to a perfect regular season in Div. II football.

and weight programs, and also the raising of the players' football intelligence.

"They go out there and make adjustments to do things to be successful," he said. "What I know is not nearly as important as what they know. If it's just me that knows, then when things change during a game, the kids don't know how to adjust."

"John (Willis-Morris) called a play the other day that was a flip-flop of what we normally call and I looked at him like he was crazy because I couldn't imagine he knew enough to do that," the coach added. "The fact

that he did it is telling—it makes all the difference. Having seniors makes all the difference—especially ones who've been with you a while. They're worth their weight in gold."

And that gold comes in the form of titles, and George, Willis-Morris and the rest of the Cougars feel they have a good shot at the 2007 Div. II title.

"We're going to have to come out executing and doing what we're supposed to be doing," George said. **"Anybody we play can beat us—badly.** If we don't execute, then nothing in the past will matter. The past doesn't matter except to give you a guide-on

on how to go forward."

And Willis-Morris agrees, adding that this one would be special since it's his last year with the school.

"It's been a good year—my last year," he said. "I'm making the best of it and hopefully we can come out with a championship for my senior year."

Ansbach clobbered Wiesbaden 36-0 in the playoffs, which sets up the Div. II championship between the Cougars and Bitburg, who downed Naples 48-30.

The Super 8 is Saturday in Baumholder—the Cougars take on the Barons at 3:30p.m.



Quarterback John Willis-Morris eludes a tackler in a game against Vilseck at Katterbach Sept. 29.



Xavier Sheppard crashes through the Vilseck defense during a game at Katterbach Sept. 29.



Shane Williams cruises in for a score against Vilseck during a Sept. 29 game. The Cougars finessed their way to a perfect regular season—the only undefeated team in DODDS football.



SEASON RECAP: Despite a great season, including winning their first homecoming game (against Aviano) in several years, the Vilseck Varsity Falcons were eliminated from reaching the playoffs after losing to Ansbach and Naples. Vilseck's last game ended with a narrow 9-8 victory with 13 seconds left over Patch.

Vilseck ended their season with 3 wins, 3 losses. Vilseck Head Coach Billy Ratcliff is looking forward to a great 2008 season. "We are only losing a few people and will have a lot of players coming back with valuable varsity experience," he said.

The names of the players who received all-conference awards will be listed in the Nov. 14 issue.

(At left) Vilseck's #88 Jamal Grant runs for a touch down during a Sept. 22 game against the Wuerzburg Wolves.

Photo by Paula Guzman

Falcon Fever

Tiger Season: Hohenfels’ varsity team puts discipline to the test

Story and photos by GARRY BARROWS
Bavarian News

As the Hohenfels Tigers prepared to play their opening Division III playoff game at home Oct. 27 against Roda, Spain, Head Football Coach Ed Lynch had a number of reasons to be pleased with the season so far and optimistic about the teams’ chances this weekend.

“We had planned to carry 24 players, started training with 32 and are now at 22,” Lynch said.

The coach noted several non-football issues altered the plan including academics and family decisions, yet it may have been the implementation of the conditioning program, a major factor absent from last year’s team, that separated the “players from the pretenders.”

“We run two miles every night and four miles on training days,” Lynch said, noting that the coaches and players have a philosophy in place that will be the foundation of the team for years to come.

Lynch says it is a philosophy of discipline where the members of the team recognize and put forth the effort necessary to become a highly conditioned team; the discipline to build character both on and off the field; a healthy nutritional lifestyle; and the patience necessary to practice smart, striving to execute their plays instinctively and smoothly.

“Last year, we lost our playoff game due to poor discipline, poor execution,” Lynch recalled. “If we don’t win this game, I can tell you it will not be because of poor discipline or poor execution.”

There is an old football adage that says “you play as you practice.” Lynch has seen significant improvement in the way his team practices.

“Good execution (of plays) breeds confidence,” he said. “The biggest improvement has been the execution of our ‘bread and butter’ plays, and that comes from disciplined practice habits.”

Lynch said by being in excellent condition, the players are more comfortable and relaxed. The players look for and read the variables of each play. Each time a fake or a blocking technique gets a little better, each player is a little better prepared.

“The players become accustomed to adjustments in defensive techniques (the other



An intense pass rush by the Hohenfels Tigers defense causes Roda Admiral Quarterback James Montfleury to hurry a pass that was intercepted by Hohenfels linebacker Johnnie Mesch and returned deep into the Roda Admirals territory during the third quarter of Div. III playoffs Oct. 24. The Admirals won, 20-12, to advance.

team shows them),” he said. “The difference in this game will be how well our players execute the plays.”

Lynch also credited team leadership as a factor in improved performance. There are four captains, two linemen—Johnnie Mesch and Patrick Van Fleet—and two running backs—Michael Tillberg and Dameon Odum—who have gotten the job done.

“They are smart kids who know what they have to do,” Lynch said.

Defensively, former Patch High School Head Coach Billy Henry has brought a simple yet effective idea to the team.

If a team can’t score, they can’t win. With three shutouts in six games, clearly some of what Coach Henry is saying is being heard.

Lynch praised Henry’s style and work to bring the techniques and tactics of basic fundamental defensive football to the team and have the team embrace and implement it so quickly.

Another area in the team’s makeup that has pleased Lynch is the respect the players give to



Hohenfels Senior running back Dameon Odum, right, watches the game, along with assistant coach Chris Howard and senior quarterback Michael Tillberg, during the Div. III playoff Oct. 24.

And so it was on a crisp fall Saturday in late October in Hohenfels that the Tigers played their final game of the season, pitting all of their experience, conditioning, and effort against the Roda Admirals.

Hohenfels took the lead with two first-half touchdowns, the second scored on a 65-yard run by back Dameon Odum.

Yet Roda would not be denied, playing with intensity and emotion, they had cut the lead to 12 – 7 before scoring again in the closing minutes of the third quarter on a touchdown pass from quarterback James Montfleury to running back Sterling Frost.

Montfleury escaped what appeared to be a sure quarterback sack to spot Frost between defenders in the end zone for the score.

The Admirals scored a late fourth quarter touchdown to make the score 20-12 and were able to hold off a final attempt by the Tigers.

The players and the coaching staff were disappointed by the results, but the effort and determination showed by the entire team during the successful season will be remembered as a foundational step in building an outstanding football program at Hohenfels.

Not in their house—Ansbach Packers rally at home for first win in ‘07

Story and photo by JIM HUGHES
Bavarian News

After four tough losses, the Ansbach Packers youth football team finally showed what they’re capable of with a 28-7 home field win over Grafenwoehr Oct. 20.

After slugging it out with the Raiders to a 7-6 deficit at the end of the first half, a Derrick Flake interception in the third quarter ignited the team to score 22 unanswered points and secure its first win.

Coaches and players alike said the team had been close to winning in each of their games against Europe’s top youth teams, but the breaks always went against them.

“These kids just finally realized what they can do with their own talents,” Coach Frank Monsisvavis said. “They had it in them all year—they did everything we asked of them and they did it perfectly.”

Ansbach took the opening drive down the field and quarterback Joey Dominguez smashed in for a touchdown with a QB sneak. The ensuing extra point failed and Ansbach

was up 6-0 early in the first.

A couple of possessions later, Ansbach seemingly felt generous to the visitors and gave the Raiders a gift when they didn’t punt and failed to convert a fourth down play from their own 15.

The Raiders quickly took advantage as on the next play Parris Manning zipped through the Packer defense for a touchdown. After a successful extra point run, Graf led 7-6, a score which would last to the end of the half.

Ansbach and Graf traded possessions in the third quarter, but then came the turning point—Flake picked off a pass as the Raiders were driving and returned it to midfield.

The Packer offense suddenly awoke with strong runs by Imani Waweru, T.J. Propp, and Daniel Mariscal—who capped off the 54-yard drive with a 10-yard touchdown run. Propp added a 2-point conversion and Ansbach found themselves up 14-7 in the third.

When Graf got the ball back, Mariscal forced a fumble and John Moss recovered for the Packers. Flake

added a 33-yard touchdown run and on the next Raider possession picked the ball off again and ran it back 35 yards for another score. After Meleke Cotton added a 2-point run, Ansbach led 28-7 which would be the final score.

“I feel really good—I really wanted to win this game today because we did so well in our previous games, but we lost them,” said Flake, who added a third interception to his day late in the game. “This was our home game and we win in our house—this was our game.”

Propp said the second half turnaround was exactly what the Packers needed to provide a silver lining to their season.

“It was mostly the motivation between me and Derrick,” he said of the catalyst of the turnaround. “We were sitting there trying to get the defense pumped up to try to stop the runs and then he got the interception—that really turned it around.”

The Packers ended their season at Grafenwoehr against Bamberg—results were unavailable at press time.



Ansbach Packer Derrick Flake runs the ball on what would end up a 33-yard touchdown in the fourth quarter of the youth football game Oct. 20 at Katterbach. The Packers won 28-7.

It is unlikely they will be in the playoffs. But even if they don’t make the playoffs, the coach said it’s been a good year because the players had fun, and learned about the game and themselves.

“This is how we play games—not the other four we lost,” he said. “I’m really happy for the kids, the program

and the community. This is why I take a lot of my time to come out here and coach these kids.

“When I was at Ramstein,” he said, “we had six to eight coaches for the teams. Here, we’re lucky to scrape up three. These programs are good for our community’s youth—it shows people care and will help.”



Grafenwoehr Vikings

The Grafenwoehr Vikings youth football team closed out a perfect 7 and 0 season Saturday after defeating the Hohenfels Saints 36-13. (At left) Running back Jaylen Dawn, 9-year-old son of Sgt. 1st Class Carla Dawn, rushes past Saints players during the Viking’s final game of the season.



Photos by Adriane Foss